



Clár Sláinte Náisiúnta do Mhná & do Naíonáin  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Aonad 7A, Áras  
Dargan, An Ceantar Theas, Baile Átha Cliath 8  
T: 076 695 9991

National Women and Infants Health Programme  
Health Service Executive, Unit 7A, The Dargan Building,  
Heuston South Quarter, Dublin 8  
T: 076 695 9991

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Deputy Cullinane,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 38202/25: To ask the Minister for Health the number and percentage of patients who were not seen by a forensic clinical examiner within three hours of a request to a sexual assault treatment unit for a forensic clinical examination.**

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

In 2024, 95% (536) of people were seen within 3 hours of a request for a Forensic Clinical Examination, exceeding the KPI target of 90%. The 95% achievement of this in 2024 marks a record high, reflecting the commitment and dedication of Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU) staff.

However, in situations where the KPI target was not met, 1 in 3 times (31%) this was because of the 'SATU being unavailable for use' (typically indicating another case in progress). Additionally, 24% of delays were attributed to the unavailability of a forensic clinical examiner, and 21% were due to the absence of SATU support staff. These findings highlight the need for continuous evaluation of SATU related staffing and infrastructure.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

**Davinia O'Donnell, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme**