

Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béil,

Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile, An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach

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Deputy Conor Sheehan Dáil Eireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

PQ 41859/25

To ask the Minister for Health the number of people awaiting surgical removal of their wisdom teeth, broken down by CHO, including wait time, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Sheehan,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The HSE Community Dental Service provides emergency care, dental examinations and treatment to children up to the age of 16. The service also provides dental treatment directly to a range of adult patients with additional needs, with the majority of adult medical card holders being provided with access through the DTSS. A small proportion of children and adults with additional needs will be identified as being unable to accept dental care without the assistance of sedation.

Waiting lists identified over the past number of years for patients waiting for dental services are organised by speciality (e.g. oral surgery, orthognathic surgery) or by facilities required (e.g. General Anaesthetic). I have written to Health Regions to confirm that that they not hold waiting lists specifically for the surgical removal of wisdom teeth. I will revert with the data if Health Regions confirm they do hold specific waiting lists.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Anne O'Neill Assistant National Director, Oral Health