

Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do Mheabhairshláinte

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Deputy Clarke, Dail Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Date: 07.08.2025

PQ Number: 41866/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if any of the new specialist eating disorder beds will be

designated for children and young people; and if so, the number. -Sorca Clarke

Dear Deputy Clarke,

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.

Children and adolescents with an eating disorder diagnosis who require inpatient treatment can be referred to one of the CAMHS inpatient approved centres by their treating CAMHS consultant. Referrals are reviewed individually to determine the likely clinical benefits of admission as well as other possible treatment alternatives.

There are four CAMHS inpatient acute units across the country; Linn Dara Approved Centre in Dublin, St Joseph's Approved Centre in Dublin, Eist Linn Approved Centre in Cork and Merlin Park Approved Centre in Galway. Eating disorders are treated in all these units. A number can offer nasal gastro (NG) feeding. All CAMHS eating disorder teams can refer to these CAMHS inpatient units.

As part of the new National Children's Hospital development, there will be an additional eight specialist eating disorder beds as part of a new 20-bedded CAMHS inpatient approved centre, which will be co-located within the new children's hospital.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Amir Niazi National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health Clinical Design and Innovation Health Service Executive