



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béil,  
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**23 June 2025**

**Deputy Brian Stanley  
Dáil Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2**

**PQ 29753/25**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients currently on waiting lists for specialist dental care under general anaesthetic, in tabular form.**

Dear Deputy Stanley,

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. The HSE dental service has access to a number of referral pathways (not including CHI) for which a recent survey was undertaken (summary below). These numbers were at a point in time and subject to regular change as this data is not routinely collated by the regions. The waiting periods for each location are individual and resource dependent.

The data does not include patients who require orthognathic surgery (corrective jaw surgery which realigns the bones and teeth for patients with severe orthodontic problems which cannot be treated by orthodontics alone). Waiting lists for orthognathic surgery are not collated centrally.

The data does not include patients waiting for treatment under GA at CHI.

<b>HSE Region</b>	<b>Number of patients waiting</b>
<b>South West</b>	<p>Under 16 - 807 patients waiting  Under 16 special needs - 321 patients waiting  Adult special needs - 115 waiting</p> <p>In addition, CUDSH provides services to the Region under SLA, their total waiting lists across regions are 384 under 16 patients and 48 Adult special needs patients.</p>
<b>Dublin and Midlands Region</b>	<p>Under 16 - 654 patients waiting  Adult special needs - 102 patients waiting</p>
<b>South East</b>	<p>Under 16 - 121 patients waiting  Special needs (Adult and child) - 210 patients waiting</p> <p>In addition:  CUDSH provides services to the Region under SLA, their total waiting lists across regions are 384 under 16 patients and 48 Adult special needs patients.  Under 16 purchased from UPMC Clane – 500 patients in total waiting across regions  Connolly Regional Waiting List – 89 patients in total waiting across regions</p>
<b>MidWest</b>	<p>Under 16 - 834 patients waiting  Adult special needs - 120 patients waiting</p>
<b>Dublin North East</b>	<p>Under 16 - 123 patients waiting  Under 16 special needs - 42 patients waiting  Adult special needs - 107 patients waiting</p> <p>In addition:  Under 16 purchased from UPMC Clane – 500 in total waiting across regions  Connolly Regional Waiting List – 89 patients in total waiting across regions</p>
<b>West and North West</b>	<p>Under 16 - 344 patients waiting  Special needs (adult and children) - 353 patients waiting</p>

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**