



Deputy Mark Wall,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

15.07.2025

PQ Number: 32868/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of young adults 18-30 who have been referred for an ADHD diagnosis in the past three years, by county, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. –Mark Wall

Dear Deputy Wall,

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

Until relatively recently there were no public services for adults with ADHD in Ireland. In 2016, the then National Clinical Advisor recommended to the HSE Mental Health Director, ADHD in Adults be considered for prioritisation as a National Clinical Programme (NCP) as this was a serious service deficit. This was agreed, an NCP Working Group set up which was both multidisciplinary and had service user input provided by ADHD Ireland. The Model of Care developed was approved by the HSE and launched by Minister Butler in 2021 who also funded 3 of the 11 community-based specialist teams recommended. These were established in 2022 with a further 4 funded by the DoH and set up between 2023-2024.

The table below shows the number of people aged 18 to 29 inclusive whose referral to each of the Adult ADHD Services was accepted. When accepted, they join a chronological waiting list of all adults aged 18 to 64 years inclusive with the exception of the service in CHO7 Dublin South West which only accepts referrals of 18 year olds already diagnosed with ADHD who have transitioned out of CAMHs on age grounds.

The digital technology infrastructure within the HSE Mental Health Services does not give individual patient level data. Therefore, no information is available on the numbers in that age range assessed and treated or on their clinical outcome is available.

Number of young adults, 18-29, who have been ACCEPTED for an ADHD diagnosis in the past three years, by CHO			
	2023 Jan - Dec	2024 Jan - Dec	2025 Jan - May
CHO1	34	41	48
CHO3	40	87	22
CHO4 Cork City & NE	17	77	29
CHO4 Kerry & West Cork	29	31	8
CHO6	46	108	65
CHO7**	5	77	41
CHO8	N/A	48	47
	171	469	260

**Service partially operational: accepting young people diagnosed ADHD by CAMHS

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