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FSS Meán Iarthair

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3rd July 2025

Deputy Alan Kelly
1 Summerhill, Nenagh
Co. Tipperary

Re: PQ 34729/25 - "To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE Endodontics within CHO3 Primary Care Services in 2023, 2024, 2025, in tabular form."

Dear Deputy Kelly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Lead Orthodontist has advised that there are no Endodontists employed in Primary Care as the grade does not exist within the HSE.

- The Principal Dental Surgeon advised that Endodontics is a dental procedure and an Endodontist is a Dental Surgeon who specializes in Endodontics (i.e. they perform root canals and other procedures to relieve dental pain). All qualified Dental Surgeons are trained in Endodontics, however, only those who undergo further training (a Masters) can specialize in Endodontics and call themselves an Endodontists.
- The Lead Orthodontist advised that the Consultant in Restorative Dentistry provides specialized Endodontic Therapy for Oral Oncology patients, cleft palate patients, medically compromised patients and those with a history of complex dental trauma on a case by case basis.

I trust the above information addresses the issues raised in your representation.

Yours sincerely,

Carmel McLaughlin
General Manager
Primary Care