



Oifig an Stiúrthoir Cúnta,
Cúram Priomhúil Rochtain agus Comhthathú,

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.
D08 W2A8.

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26th March 2025

Deputy Clarke,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 14031/25 To ask the Minister for Health why the primary care services psychology referral list for children is not collated by specific learning disability; and if her department will consider doing so.

- Sorca Clarke

Dear Deputy Clarke,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 14031/25) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

HSE Primary Care provides psychology services to a wide range of children and young people experiencing mild-to-moderate mental health difficulties, non-complex disabilities, & adjustment to health issues.

Waiting list data is not currently collated by condition as it is not necessary to have a diagnosis in order to attend primary care services. Access to primary care psychology is primarily decided by support needs rather than condition. As such, most children and young people on the primary care waiting list will not have a known diagnosis and data cannot be collated according to same.

While children with specific learning difficulties attend primary care services, children for whom specific learning difficulties are the primary concern are usually seen by the National Educational Psychology Service (NEPS). This service is provided through the Dept of Education, who collate waiting list data separately.

I trust this is of assistance.

Seán McArt

General Manager
Primary Care Access & Integration