

Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do Mheabhairshláinte

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

Date: 10th March 2025

PQ Number: 9625/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health to provide the vacancies in each of the existing eating disorder teams; and what the vacancies are for, in tabular form. -Claire Kerrane

Dear Deputy Kerrane,

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.

The HSE has prioritised eating disorder services as part of National Clinical Programmes (NCP's) and has established a specific clinical programme for eating disorders. The NCP's aim to develop person-centred, integrated care through a clinician-led, evidence-based approach to service reform. The need for specialist services is reflected in *Sharing the Vision* and more recently in the new Programme for Government.

The HSE core focus is on developing regional community-based specialist eating disorder services across CAMHS and adult populations, provided by skilled multidisciplinary teams, through the National Clinical Programme for Eating Disorders. There are currently five CAMHS teams and six adult teams at various stages of development across the HSE. These consultant-led teams provide specialist eating disorder assessment and treatment in the community and are the foundations of quality eating disorder care.

Over 90 eating disorder clinicians have been recruited since the establishment of the NCP for eating disorders including 11 Consultant Psychiatrists. This is in contrast to pre-2018 when there were less than 5 HSE clinicians in dedicated eating disorder posts. During 2025 an additional 3 ED teams will become operational with an additional 3 Consultant posts. Every year more children, adolescents and adults are accessing assessments and treatment with HSE regional community-based specialist eating disorder teams.

As at 3rd March 2025 the current vacancies reported by each team are. A vacancy is defined as a post funded and currently vacant. Vacancies can arise on a daily basis, currently maternity leave is not always backfilled.

Regional Health Area	WTE	Discipline	Type of vacancy
Dublin South Wicklow adult	1	Consultant Psychiatrist	Maternity leave
Sligo/Leitrim Adult	0	0	0
Cavan/Monaghan Adult	0	0	0
Dublin South East Adult (CHO5)	1	Consultant Psychiatrist	Vacant from end March 2025
North Dublin Adult	1	Senior dietitian	
South West Adult	4.7	1 CNS ,1 Senior Dietitian 1 Senior Occupational Therapist, 0.5 Psychology, 1.2 admin	
Dublin and South East CAMHS	1.5	1.0 Senior clinical psychologist, 0.5 Consultant pediatrician	Maternity leave – due to return 31/03/2025 In recruitment interviews set for April 2025
Dublin and Midlands CAMHS	0	0	0
Galway/Roscommon CAMHS	1.3	1 CNS 0.3 Paediatrician	
South West CAMHS	3.0	Senior Dietitian CNM, Grade 4 admin	
North Dublin CAMHS	3.0	1 Psychology, 1 Occupational Therapy and 1 Social worker	

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

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