



Mari O'Donovan,  
Interim Head of Service,  
Cúram Priomhúil  
FSS an Iardheiscirt

Áras na Ceachan,  
Páirc Ghnó agus Teicneolaíochta,  
Bóthar na Modh Feirme,  
Corcaigh. T12 XHT4

Mari O'Donovan,  
Interim Head of Service,  
Primary Care  
HSE South West

Caha House,  
Business and Technology Park,  
Model Farm Road,  
Cork. T12 XHT4

[southwest.hse.ie](mailto:southwest.hse.ie)  
E: [Mari.ODonovan@hse.ie](mailto:Mari.ODonovan@hse.ie)

27th May, 2025

Mr. Pa Daly., T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 23566/25**

**"To ask the Minister for Health to provide a breakdown of waiting lists for primary care services in Kerry in each of the years 2015 to date in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter".**

Dear Deputy Daly,

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.

Total Number of physiotherapy patients on the assessment waiting list	
December 2015	Not Available
December 2016	Not Available
December 2017	799
December 2018	1,273
December 2019	1,502
December 2020	2,894
December 2021	1,655
December 2022	1,523
December 2023	3,116
December 2024	4,164
April 2025	3,793

Total Number of occupational therapy patients on the assessment waiting list	
December 2015	Not Available
December 2016	Not Available
December 2017	937
December 2018	942
December 2019	943
December 2020	1,169
December 2021	1,235
December 2022	1,313
December 2023	1,249
December 2024	1,514
April 2025	1,633

Total Number. of psychology patients on the treatment waiting list	
December 2015	Not Available
December 2016	Not Available
December 2017	258
December 2018	254
December 2019	217
December 2020	217
December 2021	330
December 2022	487

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December 2023	543
December 2024	941
April 2025	984

Total Number. of speech and language therapy patients waiting initial assessment	
December 2015	Not Available
December 2016	Not Available
December 2017	256
December 2018	258
December 2019	197
December 2020	195
December 2021	111
December 2022	180
December 2023	190
December 2024	207
April 2025	211

Total Number of podiatry patients on the treatment waiting list	
December 2015	Not Available
December 2016	Not Available
December 2017	338
December 2018	326
December 2019	144
December 2020	86
December 2021	388
December 2022	241
December 2023	170
December 2024	129
April 2025	133

Total Number of dietetics patients on the treatment waiting list	
December 2015	Not Available
December 2016	Not Available
December 2017	822
December 2018	586
December 2019	913
December 2020	819
December 2021	1,049
December 2022	2,178
December 2023	2,044
December 2024	1,579
April 2025	1,668

Total Number of Audiology patients on the treatment waiting list	
December 2015	Not Available
December 2016	Not Available
December 2017	Not Available
December 2018	Not Available
December 2019	Not Available
December 2020	Not Available
December 2021	457* Adults Only



December 2022	1,055
December 2023	1,540
December 2024	1,514
April 2025	1,233

I acknowledge that the above wait times for services is less than desirable, and I apologise for same. This is as a consequence to a number of factors including a growth in demand for services and also the implications of deficits in staffing resources. Efforts to increase resources throughout and reduce waiting times are indeed our top priority. We are actively working on strategies to address resources allocation, validation of waiting lists, streamlining processes and optimising existing workloads, ultimately working towards providing timely access for all to services.

This is inclusive of approval of vacant/replacement posts for which recruitment is now ongoing and it is hoped that the increased resources will impact these waiting times.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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**Mari O'Donovan**  
**Interim Head of Service - Primary Care,**  
**HSE South West**