



27th May 2025

Deputy Pa Daly,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2,

PQ ref 23757/25

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on occupational therapy waiting lists in County Kerry, broken down by area and by length of time, 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.

The Occupational Therapy Waiting lists in Primary Care presently are as follows:

Waiting Time	Community Healthcare Network 1 Kerry North	Community Healthcare Network 2 West Kerry	Community Healthcare Network 3 South Kerry
0 ≤ 12 weeks	193	148	123
12 ≤ 26 weeks	144	101	93
26 ≤ 39 weeks	128	87	60
39 ≤ 52 weeks	126	94	678
52 + weeks	143	58	67

The Occupational Therapy Waiting lists [Acute Hospital Service only] at University Hospital Kerry presently are as follows :

Patient Cohort	Specific OT Service	Number of NEW patients currently on waiting list
Outpatient	Hand Therapy	3 patients < 1 month
Inpatient	Generalised OT	15 patients

The HSE acknowledges that the current wait times for services are less than ideal, and apologises for this. These delays are due to several factors, including increased demand for services and challenges related to staffing shortages. The HSE's top priority is to increase resources throughout and reduce waiting times. We are actively implementing strategies to



improve resource allocation, validate waiting lists, streamline processes and optimise 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.

I trust this clarifies the position and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Julie O' Neill
Integrated Healthcare Area Manager
Kerry HSE South West