



Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil  
Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do  
Mheabhairshláinte

HSE, Ospidéal an Dr Stevens, Baile Átha  
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Office of the National Clinical  
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Deputy Sorcha Clarke,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025

**PQ Number: 26943/25**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of children under 17 years of age that attended adult emergency departments for self-harm and suicidal ideations in each of the years 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter – Sorcha Clarke**

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Dear Deputy Clarke,

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.

A Model of Care National Clinical Programme for Self Harm and Suicide related Ideation provides a framework to improve services for all who self-harm or present with suicide-related ideation, regardless of where they present. Launched by Minister Butler in February 2022, it outlines in detail the response for people who present to the emergency department including services for children and adolescents with Self-harm and Suicide Related Ideation. The Model of Care ensures that those presenting to the ED receives a compassionate, empathic, validating response, and a therapeutic assessment and intervention from a suitably trained mental health professional. Every effort is made to ensure that a family member or supportive adult is involved in assessment and safety planning, and that they are followed up and linked to appropriate next care.

The National Clinical Programme for Self-Harm And Suicidal-related Ideation (NCPSHI) collects anonymised presentation data from 26 emergency departments in each Model 4 and Model 3 hospital across all HSE regional health areas. In addition data from one of Children's Health Ireland's acute paediatric hospital emergency department is collected, which is not reported here.

The data is collected in distinct age categories, and while specific figures for children under 17 years of age is not available the 'under 18 years' age group is used to represent presentations by children and adolescents. All data reflects presentation trends only and not numbers of individuals. It is important to note that not all participating services see patients under 18 years of age.

**Presentations of self-harm and suicidal-related ideation among individuals under 18 years of age who attended adult emergency departments in 2023 and 2024 by Regional Health Area**

Presentations of self-harm and suicidal-related ideation among individuals under 18 years of age who attended adult emergency departments in 2023 and 2024

HSE Regional Health Area	2023 Presentation numbers	2024 Presentation numbers
HSE Dublin and North East	187	144
HSE Dublin and South East	266	192
HSE Dublin and Midlands	289	296
HSE South West	51	63
HSE Mid West	2	0
HSE West and North West	345	396
<b>Total</b>	<b>1, 140</b>	<b>1, 091</b>

In 2023 there were 1, 140 presentations of children under 18 years of age reported to the NCPSHI nationally from 18 services in model 3 & 4 hospitals.

In 2024 there were 1, 091 presentations of children under 18 years of age reported to the NCPSHI nationally from 18 services in model 3 & 4 hospitals.

We are not in a position to report on 2025 data as not all data has been received and verified.

Further information on this clinical programme can be found here:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/self-harm-suicide-related-ideation/>

A recent publication “Thoughts of suicide and self-harm: A national study on young people presenting to non-pediatric acute hospitals in Ireland” available here <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.2989/17280583.2025.2489157> may also be of interest.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

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**Dr Amir Niazi**  
**National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health**  
**Clinical Design and Innovation**  
**Health Service Executive**