



Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil
Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do
Mheabhairshláinte

HSE, Ospidéal an Dr Stevens, Baile Átha
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Deputy Grace Boland,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

2nd October 2025

PQ Number: 52727/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the way in which perinatal mental health services are being integrated with primary care, public health nursing, and community mental health teams to ensure continuity of care for mothers before and after birth; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Grace Boland

Dear Deputy Boland

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 *Model of Care for Specialist Perinatal Mental Health Services* provides for the delivery of care through a national hub-and-spoke structure, with six hub sites and thirteen spoke sites across the country, each supported by multidisciplinary teams. These services are designed to work in partnership with primary care, public health nursing and community mental health teams, to ensure that women have access to appropriate care before and after birth and that continuity of care is maintained across settings.

Integration with local maternity hospitals, GPs and community services is a central feature of the Model of Care. Referrals can be made by health professionals, and perinatal teams collaborate closely with community mental health teams and primary care to support women with mental health needs. Public health nurses also play an important role in early identification and referral, ensuring women receive timely support.

The Model of Care is currently under review, and this refresh will further strengthen collaboration with primary care, public health nursing and community mental health teams, in line with *Sharing the Vision* and international best practice.

I trust this information is of assistance to you

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Amir Niazi



National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health
Clinical Design and Innovation
Health Service Executive