



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.

8th October 2025

PQ Number: 52728/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if her Department has considered extending postnatal mental health follow-up beyond the current six-week period, in line with recommendations from the MAMMI study and HIQA's National Maternity Experience Survey; 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 a national hub-and-spoke structure comprising six hub sites and thirteen spoke sites. These services support women with mental health needs during pregnancy and for up to one year following birth, working in collaboration with maternity, primary care and community mental health services to ensure continuity of care.

In most hub sites, postnatal mental health follow-up can extend up to one year, while in some areas the duration of follow-up may vary depending on local demand and available resources. The importance of early identification and ongoing support for women with postnatal mental health difficulties is recognised, and the service continues to develop in line with international best practice.

The Model of Care is currently being refreshed, which will include consideration of the evidence and recommendations from the MAMMI study and the HIQA National Maternity Experience Survey. This review will inform future service planning and ensure that pathways of care reflect the needs of women and their infants in the months following birth.

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