



Office of the Head of Primary Care
Services
Community Health Organisation
Midlands Louth Meath

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30th October, 2025

Deputy Micheál Carrigy
Leinster House
Kildare St.
Dublin 2

Re: PQ reference 56598/25 – Representation from Deputy Micheál Carrigy requesting the number of patients on the physiotherapy waiting list at St. Joseph's Care Centre, Longford, as of 30th September 2025, disaggregated into assessment and treatment lists and the average/median wait for each.

Dear Deputy Carrigy,

Thank you for your query. The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above representation, which you recently submitted. In preparing this response your representation has been discussed with the relevant Managers. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

The physiotherapy outpatient department at St. Joseph's Care centre provides a primary care outpatient service to the population living in Longford and Central Westmeath. The population of this region is 49,859.

All persons living in within the Longford and Central Westmeath community healthcare network can be referred to the physiotherapy primary care service through a number of sources e.g., Public Health Nurse, Health & Social Care Programme staff, GP, consultant, acute hospital or self-referral. The information received on the referral will be screened by an experienced physiotherapist and using our regional prioritisation PPPG, the referral will be wait listed accordingly.

The current waiting list is categorised as Clinical Priority 1 or Clinical Priority 2. The referrals are not disaggregated into assessment and intervention commences as clinically indicated.

All Priority 1 referrals are seen within a target time of 3 weeks as per regional PPPG's. However, some referrals may be scheduled outside of 3 weeks for a variety of reasons including: post-operative guidelines or consultant specific instructions. Priority 2 referrals are waitlisted chronologically.

On average 2,300 referrals are received into this outpatient service annually.

On 30th September 2025, there were 965 people waiting for an initial assessment at the Physiotherapy outpatient department at St Joseph's Care Centre.



The longest waiter on the Priority 2 waiting list is waiting 56 weeks.

The median Priority 1 longest waiter for assessment and intervention in 2025 waited 3 weeks.

The median Priority 2 longest waiter for assessment and intervention in 2025 waited 55 weeks.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Ruane
Head of Primary Care Services
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation