



23/09/2025

Deputy Clarke
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 45485/25: To ask the Minister for Health the number of individuals currently waiting for complex menopause services in County Westmeath, by length of time waiting that is up to 3 months, between 3-6 months, between 6-12 months and over 12 months, in tabular form.

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 key piece of work for the National Women and Infants has been the collaborative development of regional complex menopause services in partnership with secondary care providers. Many women can navigate this period of their lives without medical intervention, while for others, menopausal care is appropriately delivered within primary care. The complex menopause clinics have been established to support women whose symptoms and/or medical histories required more specialist care e.g. history of breast cancer. Referrals are accepted from GPs within defined catchment areas in accordance to agreed referral criteria, ensuring secondary care resources are directed towards women who most require specialist input.

The HSE has now established six regional, complex services, one within each of the existing maternity networks aligned to the six health regions. These services are located at the Coombe Hospital, the National Maternity Hospital, the Rotunda Hospital, Galway University Hospital, Cork University Maternity Hospital, and Nenagh Hospital (under the clinical governance of University Maternity Hospital Limerick).

Women from County Westmeath who require specialist menopausal care and who meet the access criteria can be referred to the complex service at the Coombe Hospital.

The latest available waiting list figures for the complex menopause service at the Coombe Hospital are as follows:

Total patients on waiting list	154
0 - 3 months	92
3 - 6 months	55
6 - 9 months	6
9 - 12 months	1
12 + months	0

Table 1 Waiting list for the complex menopause service at the Coombe Hospital, July 2025

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mary-Jo Biggs, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme