



Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil
Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do
Mheabhairshláinte

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

17th September 2025

PQ Number: 45834/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the status of the dual diagnosis pilot scheme; the current sites where the pilot is in operation; the number of service users who have been supported to date; the outcomes achieved; the staffing and funding allocated to the scheme in 2024 and 2025; the timeline for the full rollout of dual diagnosis teams; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Sorca Clarke

Dear Deputy Clarke,

The Model of Care for Dual Diagnosis was launched in May 2023 and this Model of Care recommends that each specialist team have a WTE level of 13 team members, across different disciplines.

Since the launch of the Model of Care, the National Clinical Programme have been working on implementing this model, starting with four initial sites which includes, two adult specialist services and two enhanced Dual Diagnosis adolescent hub teams.

The Adult Dual Diagnosis (DD) teams in Cork and RHA Midwest (covering Clare, North Tipperary and Limerick) are operational since mid-July 2024 and mid-January 2025 respectively, with recruitment of the team members nearly completed. There have been 151 referrals for the period from 8th July 2024 to 30th August 2025, to the DD team in Cork. In the RHA Midwest, there were 67 referrals from mid-January 2025 until 30th August 2025 and all referrals were assessed within 8 weeks by both the teams.

About the outcome for the service users, it varies widely from completion of intervention leading to drug rehabilitation placement to non-engagement and failure to follow up with the Dual Diagnosis services.

In addition to the above, a third Adult Dual Diagnosis team based in Waterford is being recruited at present following initial resource allocation in NSP 2025.

Furthermore, recruitment to enhance the SASSY team based in Dublin North covering RHA Dublin North and North East, to commence services as an Adolescent Hub Dual Diagnosis team, is expected to be completed by Q4 2025. In addition, recruitment to enhance the YoDA team based in Tallaght to deliver services as the other Adolescent Dual Diagnosis Hub team is



ongoing at present. In addition, there are plans to commence a pilot Dual Diagnosis prison inreach service in Cork in the next few months, through the resourcing of a CNS for it.

Regarding resource allocation for 2024 and 2025, there were 10 WTEs (Whole Time Equivalents) funded through NSP 2025. In 2024, there were 12 WTEs resourced through the Mental Health and an additional 7 WTEs were funded through Social Inclusion/Drug Strategy department to enhance the YoDA team in Tallaght.

The Model of Care for Dual Diagnosis recommends 12 Adult Dual Diagnosis team and 4 Adolescent Dual Diagnosis Hub teams (in addition to the spoke Adolescent Dual Diagnosis teams). Depending on the available resources in the future, additional teams will be established across Ireland as recommended in the Model of Care for Dual Diagnosis.

Should you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours Sincerely,

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