



Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Cúram Priomhúil
FSS Meán Iarthair

Ballycummin Avenue,
Páirc Gnó an Ráithín,
An Ráithín,
Luimneach,
V94 D1W9

Head of Service, Primary Care
HSE Mid West

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24th September 2025

Deputy Joe Cooney
Lower Market St., Ennis
Co. Clare

Re: PQ 46935/25 - "To ask the Minister for Health of adults and children since November 2022 on the waiting list to see the Community Orthoptist in the HSE Mid West area, by adult and children and year, in tabular form".

Dear Deputy Cooney,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Primary Care Unit Manager has provided the following information in relation to the number of children across the HSE Mid West area (Clare, Limerick & Nth. Tipperary) waiting to be seen by the HSE Community Orthoptist:

Year	No. of children waiting to be seen by the Community Orthoptist in the HSE Mid West area (November 2022 – August 2025):
2022	24
2023	70
2024	198
2025	119

Please note that HSE Community Ophthalmology Services provides ophthalmic services for children up to the age of 12 or to the end of 6th class in Primary School only. Children over the age of 12 and adults who hold a valid medical card can access ophthalmic services through the Community Ophthalmic Services Scheme, whereby, private practitioners (i.e. Ophthalmologists, Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians) are contracted with the HSE under a GMS contract for the provision of services to eligible patients under the scheme.

I trust the above information addresses the issues raised in your representation.

Yours sincerely,

Carmel McLaughlin
General Manager
Primary Care