



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

An Oifig Náisiúnta don Chuimsiú  
Sóisialta  
Rannóg Cúram Príomhúil  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse  
Sláinte  
Lána an Mhuilinn  
Baile Phámar  
Baile Átha Cliath 20

☎: 01-620 1747 f. 01-620 1626

National Social Inclusion Office  
Primary Care Division  
Health Service Executive  
Mill Lane  
Palmerstown  
Dublin 20

23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2016

Deputy Jack Chambers  
Dáil Eireann  
Kildare St.  
Dublin 2

**PQ 16069/16**

To ask the Minister for Health if 100 per cent of problem drug users are accessing treatment services within one month of assessment, as targeted in the National Drugs Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**PQ 16070/16**

To ask the Minister for Health if 100 per cent of problem drug users under 18 years of age are accessing treatment services within one week of assessment, as targeted in the National Drugs Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Chambers,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Questions which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

The percentage of substance misusers, over 18 years of age, for whom treatment has commenced within one calendar month following assessment is collected and reported on as a key performance indicator and is one of the Primary Care Social Inclusion metrics. Substance Misuse figures include Heroin, other Illicit Drugs, Alcohol, Prescribed/ Over the Counter Drugs and are reported on quarterly in arrears.

The most recent data available for October to December 2015 (reported in March 2016) identified that 1,012 treatment episodes (over 18's) commenced in HSE services, of which 91% commenced treatment within one calendar month following assessment.

The percentage of substance misusers, under 18 years of age, for whom treatment has commenced within one week following assessment is collected and reported on as a key performance indicator and is one of the Primary Care Social Inclusion metrics. Substance Misuse figures include Heroin, Other Illicit Drugs, Alcohol, Prescribed/ Over the Counter Drugs and are reported on quarterly in arrears.

The most recent data available for October to December 2015 (reported in March 2016) identified that 63 treatment episodes (under 18's) commenced in HSE services, of which 100% commenced treatment within one week following assessment.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Doyle', with a stylized flourish at the end.

---

Joseph Doyle  
National Planning Specialist