



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta
Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte

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Deputy Mark Ward.
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

7th February 2024

PQ Number: 50392/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health for a breakdown of CAMHS-ID teams, per CHO area, in tabular form; the staffing level per team; what options are open to young people who require the services of CAMHS-ID if there are no teams in their CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward

Dear Deputy Ward,

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.

The needs of adults and children with intellectual disabilities are generally best met in services such as HSE Primary Care and HSE Disability services. However, people may have moderate or severe mental health difficulties in addition to their intellectual disability, which can mean their treatment needs are more complex. The HSE service best suited to an individual patient is determined by the level of the intellectual disability and of the mental health difficulty.

The mental health policies, *Vision for Change* and *Sharing the Vision*, recommends the development of mental health intellectual disability (MHID) teams, to provide population-wide coverage and ensure fair and equal access to mental healthcare for people of all ages with an intellectual disability.

A Vision for Change recommends one team per 300,000 of the population. As per 2016 census figures there should be 16 CAMHS ID teams nationally. This number is likely to increase as per 2022 census figures. Each team should have 11 WTE's per 300,000 population. Currently there are 10 WTE's Consultant Psychiatrists in post many working with 1 or two WTE team members, and some working with no team members.

Most Consultant Psychiatrists cover catchment areas far in excess of 300,000 with minimum multidisciplinary team input. There are four teams which have what is described as baseline teams a Consultant Psychiatrist, Senior Psychologist or equivalent and a CNS. (CHO's 6, 7, 4, and 9).

CHO areas 7 and 9 have the best staffing levels with 11.5 and 8.8 WTE's respectively, but both cover catchment areas in excess of 700,000. CHO 6 covers a catchment area of 422,000 as per 2016 census and have 5.6 WTE, one who is on leave.



HSE Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) provide specialist mental health services to those aged up to 18 years, who have reached the threshold for a diagnosis of moderate to severe mental health disorder that require the input of multi-disciplinary mental health teams.

Until CAMHS ID Teams are rolled out and operational Children should attend their local Community Disability Network Team for intervention in relation to their disability and their GP if there is a concern regarding a moderate to severe mental disorder, who in turn can discuss with the catchment area Executive Clinical Director.

Nationally staffing for CAMHS ID teams is at 20% of a Vision for Change recommendations. Some posts have being approved but have not yet been filled.

Location of specialist CAMHS community teams*

National	CAMHS Forensic Team
CHO 2	CAMHS Connect (CAMHS HUB)
CHO 2	Eating Disorder Team (*in development)
CHO 2	CAMHS-ID Community Team (*in development)
CHO 3	CAMHS HUB (*in development)
CHO 3	CAMHS-ID Community Team (*in development)
CHO 4	Child and Adolescent ADHD Service Cork/Kerry
CHO 4	Child and Adolescent Regional Eating Disorder Service
CHO 4	CAMHS HUB (*in development)
CHO 4	CAMHS-ID Community Team
CHO 5	CAMHS-ID Community Team
CHO 6	CAMHS HUB (*in development)
CHO 7	Linn Dara Community Eating Disorder Service
CHO 7	ADMIRE ADHD Community Team
CHO 7	CAMHS-ID Community Team
CHO 8	Longford/Westmeath YAMHS
CHO 8	Laois/Offaly YAMHS
CHO 8	CAMHS HUB (*in development)
CHO 8	CAMHS-ID Community Team
CHO 9	Enhanced Neurodevelopmental Team
CHO 9	Eating Disorder Team
CHO 9	Day Hospital

Note Some of above teams are for purposes of KPI reporting classified as regular community CAMHS teams*

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Hennessey
General Manager
National Mental Health Services

