



Office of the Head of Primary Care  
Services  
Community Health Organisation  
Midlands Louth Meath

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4<sup>th</sup> March, 2024

Mr. Ruairí Ó Murchú T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2

**Re: Parliamentary Question – 54553/23**

**To ask the Minister for Health how many 5a waiting list patients were seen in the CHO8 area under the HSE orthodontic treatment waiting list initiative in 2021, 2022 and 2023; how much was spent on this category for the same years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Ó Murchú,

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 outline the position as follows;

Grade 5 patients were not considered for the HSE orthodontic treatment waiting list initiative in 2021, 2022 and 2023 originally because of the complexity of care required to treat most cases.

The initiative is currently under review by the National Oral Health Office to consider including Grade 5a patients.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

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Joseph Ruane  
Head of Primary Care Services  
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation