



Ref: PQ 55565/23

14<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Deputy Patricia Ryan**  
**Dáil Eireann**  
**Dublin 2**

Dear Deputy Ryan

I refer to your below parliamentary question which has been forwarded to me for attention.

**PQ 55565/23 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting on obesity clinic appointments, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Response:**

A pilot Child and Adolescent Obesity Service in Temple Street Children's University Hospital was initiated in 2005 as a response to increasing health problems associated with paediatric obesity. In 2022 in line with the HSE Model of Care for the Management of Overweight and Obesity, dedicated funding was allocated to expand the service and to establish the Children's Health Ireland Child and Adolescent Obesity Service. The Service provides holistic assessment and evidence-based management for children and adolescents diagnosed with obesity-related complications (BMI>99th centile plus a health complication). It is a family-based service delivered by a multidisciplinary team.

<b>Number of children waiting on obesity appointments as of 11/01/2024</b>	
<b>CHI Obesity Service</b>	67*
<b>New patients awaiting MDT clinic appointment (physio, dietetics, OT, Psychology)</b>	268

\*new patients waiting to see a consultant.

*Children with obesity and related physical complications may also be referred into CHI to other tertiary specialists including endocrinology, respiratory medicine, orthopaedics, hepatology and neurology. As such, the number above relates only to those children referred to the obesity service specifically and does not include those children with obesity on other CHI specialist waiting lists.*

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire  
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97 Ireland

Yours sincerely

---

**Sharon Ryan**  
**Directorate Operations Lead CDA**  
**Email: [sharon.ryan@cuh.ie](mailto:sharon.ryan@cuh.ie)**

Our **Mission** is to: Promote and provide child-centred, research-led and learning informed healthcare, to the highest standards of safety and excellence. We will do this in partnership with each other, with children, young people and their families through a network of children's services in Ireland.

CRA Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20202295 Revenue Charitable Status CHY: 22235

**Board Members:** Prof James Browne (Chairman), Mr Con Cronin, Ms Mary Cryan, Prof Martin Elliott, Ms Catherine Guy, Dr Anne Kilgallen, Dr Gavin Lavery, Mr Bernard McLoughlin, Ms Brigid McManus, Ms Eleanor O'Neill, Mr Sean Sheehan