



Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil
Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do
Mheabhairshláinte

HSE, Ospidéal an Dr Stevens, Baile Átha
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Office of the National Clinical
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Deputy Willie
O'Dea
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Date issued: 05.12.2023
Today's date: 26.02.2024

PQ Number: 52398/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider increasing accessibility to adult ADHD support services by allowing for a more inclusive diagnostic process (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Willie O'Dea

Dear Deputy O'Dea,

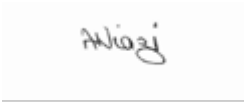
The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Adult ADHD National Clinical Programme (NCP) focuses on people with ADHD of moderate- severe degree whose symptoms are of such severity that they negatively impact on their ability to function in two or more domains of life such as education/ work, relationships with family and friends, managing their self-care. Other impacts include increase rates of suicidality and repeated self-harm, drug misuse, road traffic accidents.

The NCP references the need to develop an integrated stepped care approach including the voluntary sector and HSE Primary/ Disability Care. While much has been achieved jointly with ADHD Ireland, there is more that could be done. Crucially there has been no Primary/Disability Care response to ADHD. This step is vital in both providing for those with milder ADHD and ensuring the current provision is reserved for those with severer ADHD. The Clinical Lead has highlighted this service deficit and the need to address it as a matter of urgency to the National Clinical Advisor Mental Health who accepts this advice and has consulted with colleagues in HSE Primary/Disability care to discuss the development of an integrated stepped care response to ADHD in Adults in line with Slaintecare principles.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Amir Niazi

National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health Clinical Design and Innovation

Health Service Executive