



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta
Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte

Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin, Baile Phámar,
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Deputy Mark Ward
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

13th of February 2024

PQ Number: 52793/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if historical data on the number of children and teenagers treated for anorexia as in-patients in paediatric hospital is retained; if so, the data for the years 2017 to present, by year, in tabular form; 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.

In-patient discharges are reported only; Emergency Department presentations and out-patient attendances are not recorded on the Hospital In-patient Enquiry (HIPE) system.

HIPE data may include multiple admissions for the same patient. Therefore, it is not possible to use HIPE to examine certain parameters such as the number of hospital encounters per patient, or to estimate incidence or prevalence of disease.

Diagnosis and Procedures have been coded using the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth revision (ICD 10) since 2020, previous versions were used before this. This change in the coding classification must be considered when looking at the data across years.

This table includes Crumlin, Temple Street and Tallaght. (aged <20 years) both Tallaght Child (aged <17 years) and Tallaght Adult (17 years and over) have been included here) **Table 1: Number of in-patient discharges aged <20 years in paediatric hospitals^a with a principal diagnosis of anorexia, reported to HIPE, 2017-2022**

Age Group	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<13 years	37	19	16	15	15	18
13-19 years	31	39	39	58	108	72

Since 2011 HIPE collects a principal diagnosis and up to 29 additional diagnoses per discharge. The table below is based on discharges with a principal diagnosis of the conditions specified.



The table below provides a breakdown of admissions for Eating Disorders for each of the four CAMHS Inpatient units. This includes patients' with a diagnosis of:

- F50.0 Anorexia Nervosa
- F50.1 Atypical Anorexia Nervosa
- F50.2 Bullimia Nervosa
- F50.3 Atypice Bullimia Nervosa
- F50.9 Eating Disorder Unspecified
- Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake

2017 to 2023 to date

Unit	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Eist Linn	8	4	4	4	9	6	13	
Merlin Park	4	3	7	32	21	12	20	
St. Joseph's	3	2	4	10	19	11	13	
Linn Dara	12	9	17	19	28	18	14	
Total	27	18	32	65	77	47	60	

Merlin Park had 19 readmissions of the same patient in 2020 with her average duration of stay 3-4 days

Yours sincerely,

Tony Mc Cusker
General Manager
National Mental Health Services