Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do Mheabhairshláinte

HSE, Ospidéal an Dr Stevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8, DO8 W2A8

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

Date: 24th May 2024

PQ Number: 18558/24
PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health for an update on CAMHS early intervention in psychosis services; the cost of delivering these services per annum; which catchment areas will be eligible for this service; 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 HSE National Clinical Programme for Early Intervention in Psychosis is a joint initiative between the HSE and the College of Psychiatrists of Ireland, with the Model of Care launched on 12th June 2019. Each year in Ireland an estimated 1,500 people develop a psychotic disorder for the first time. National Implementation of this clinical programme will require the development of approximately 25 EIP services in Ireland in line with Sharing the Vision recommendation 52.

There are 5 EIP services in place across the HSE. All are at various stages of development and resourcing when compared with the HSE EIP Model of Care. The 5 EIP teams are RISE, South Lee & EIST North Lee CHO4 (2 teams), Sligo/ Leitrim/ South Donegal CHO 1, DETECT- Dublin, North Wicklow CHO 6, Meath CHO8. Currently 19% of adults presenting with a first episode of psychosis have access to an EIP Service.

Funding from the Women's Health Taskforce is supporting the development of the first CAMHS based psychosis service with 3.5WTEs – 0.5 Consultant, senior clinical psychologist, Key Worker and admin at an estimated cost of €450K. This service will see young people presenting with psychotic like symptoms e.g. hearing voices a few times a week, experiencing paranoia (65% of whom are girls). We know that without intervention up ~ 35% of these young people go on to develop psychosis. This service will commence in 2024 and will be co-located with the existing DETECT EIP service for over 18s.

The development of psychosis under the age of 18 years old is associated with lower rates of remissions and recovery. As such, the development of EIP services for the under 18s is a priority for the EIP NCP. With an additional keyworker the existing 5 EIP Adult teams (South lee Cork, North lee Cork, Sligo, Meath, DETECT- CHO6) could in-reach into the local CAMHs services ensuring that young people under 18 get access to psychosis specific, evidence based care. This would also support

seamless transition of young people from CAMHS to AMHS services at an estimated cost of €400k. This proposal is being discussed with the CAMHS service in relation to governance and service delivery.

The EIP NCP commissioned the development of a psychosis incidence prediction model. This model was published in 2022 and provides estimates of the rates of psychosis in each local area in people aged between 14 and 65. Based on data from the 2016 census this model predicted ~100 new cases of psychosis in people under the age of 18 annually in Ireland. However, we are now updating this model with the 2022 Census data and hope to have this updated report published in 2024.

Total investment in EIP NCP to date is 3.68 Million since 2015. We are awaiting an update on the allocation of resources for 2024 out of the additional 10 million allocated for mental health.

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

Yours sincerely,

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Dr Amir Niazi
National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health
Clinical Design and Innovation
Health Service Executive