



Oifig na Seirbhísí Sláinte Meabhrach  
Cúram Sláinte Pobail Corcaigh & Ciarraí

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23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

Deputy Michael Healy-Rae  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 2622/24**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if funding is available for families who have to go private to see a psychologist when no services are available to them with CAHMS (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

**Details supplied:**

**“I ask why no cover has been put in place for the CAMHS Psychologist in the Tralee area who is on maternity leave. The families of Children and young adults have no option but to pay for private appointments as there is currently no cover. Will these patients be reimbursed for the costs of private appointments?”**

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,

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

I can confirm that North Kerry CAMHS team currently does not have a Clinical Psychologist due to extended leave. In light of the ongoing recruitment pause we are currently unable to hire temporary replacements for vacant posts.

The North Kerry CAMHS team has remote access to a Principal Clinical Psychologist. This psychologist can offer advice and provide psychological insights and direction to CAMHS team members for the young people under the care of the North Kerry CAMHS team.

We are committed to providing the best possible care with the resources currently available to us. We are not in a position to reimburse families for private sessions.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Yours sincerely,

**Julie O' Neill**  
**Head of Service**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**