



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta  
Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte

Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin, Baile Phámar,  
Baile Átha Cliath 20, D20 HK69

Office of the  
Assistant National Director  
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Deputy Jennifer Whitmore.  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

20<sup>th</sup> August 2024

**PQ Number: 30576/24**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the roll-out of CAMHS-ID teams nationwide, including a breakdown of CHOs that these teams will be based in; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Jennifer Whitmore**

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Dear Deputy Whitmore,

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 needs of adults and children with intellectual disabilities are generally best met in services such as HSE Primary Care and HSE Disability services. However, people may have moderate or severe mental health difficulties in addition to their intellectual disability, which can mean their treatment needs are more complex. The HSE service best suited to an individual patient is determined by the level of the intellectual disability and of the mental health difficulty.

The Mental Health policies: *A Vision for Change* (2006) and *Sharing the Vision* (2020), recommends the development of mental health intellectual disability (MHID) teams, to provide population-wide coverage and ensure fair and equal access to mental healthcare for people of all ages with an intellectual disability.

*A Vision for Change* recommends one team per 300,000 of the population. As per 2016 census figures there should be 16 CAMHS ID teams nationally. This number is likely to increase as per 2022 census figures. Each team should have 11 WTE's per 300,000 population. There are four teams which have what is described as baseline teams a Consultant Psychiatrist, Senior Psychologist or equivalent and a CNS. (CHO's 6, 7, 4, and 9).

It is important to note that not all teams will come into existence with full membership. The current national CAMHS- ID programme is working towards establishing baseline teams, in all areas, consisting of a consultant psychiatrist, a senior psychologist, a clinical nurse specialist and administration support. Until CAMHS ID Teams are rolled out and operational Children should attend their local Community Disability Network Team for intervention in relation to their disability and their GP if there is a concern regarding a moderate to severe mental disorder, who in turn can discuss with the catchment area Executive Clinical Director.

Further information can be found by consulting with the Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services for Children with Intellectual Disability (CAMHS-ID) National Model of Service



available here: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/mental-health-services/camhs/camhs-id-model-of-service/camhs-id-model-of-service.pdf>

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sarah Hennessey'.

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**Sarah Hennessey**  
**General Manager**  
**Child and Youth Mental Health Office**