



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta  
Clár Cúraim Pobail Feabhsaithe &  
Conarthaí Príomhchúraim  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Urlár 2, Páirc Ghnó Bhóthar na Modhfheirme,  
Bóthar na Modhfheirme, Corcaigh, T12 HT02

Office of the Assistant National Director  
Enhanced Community Care Programme &  
Primary Care Contracts  
Health Service Executive  
Floor 2, Model Business Park,  
Model Farm Road, Cork, T12 HT02

www.hse.ie  
T: 021-4928512  
E: primarycare.strategy@hse.ie

Deputy John Brady,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

16<sup>th</sup> September 2024

PQ 31737/24: To ask the Minister for Health the number of people waiting to access lymphoedema services in Ireland in total and by waiting-time period, in each of the time periods Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4 of 2023 and in Q1 and Q2 of 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. – John Brady

Dear Deputy Brady,

I refer to your parliamentary question, which was passed to the HSE for response.

### Community services

There are currently three specialist lymphoedema clinics in community services; Counties Clare, Meath and Donegal. The following data is combined for all 3 clinics.

### Specialist Lymphoedema Clinics

	No of people on the waiting list			
2023	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
P1	76	47	64	20
P2	73	95	94	43
2024				
P1	30	24		
P2	31	55		

Priority	Wait times	No of patients
2023		
P1	< 1 week	55
	1 – 4 weeks	106
	4 – 8 weeks	45
	8 – 12 weeks	8
	12 – 26 weeks	3
P2	< 1 week	21
	1 – 4 weeks	95
	4 – 8 weeks	136



	8 – 12 weeks	49
	12 – 26 weeks	6
<b>2024</b>		
P1	< 1 week	22
	1 – 4 weeks	27
	4 – 8 weeks	7
	8 – 12 weeks	
	12 – 26 weeks	
P2	< 1 week	9
	1 – 4 weeks	33
	4 – 8 weeks	43
	8 – 12 weeks	8
	12 – 26 weeks	

In 2023 74% of priority 1 (P1) patients were seen within 4 weeks and 98% of priority 2 (P2) patients were seen within 12 weeks. In Q1 and Q2 2024 88% of P1 patients were seen within 4 weeks and 100% of P2 patients were seen within 12 weeks.

### Acute services

There are acute lymphoedema services in the following hospitals which are for cancer related lymphoedema. In acute settings there is no waiting list as such, as the services are mostly provided expeditiously in an oncology context and the wait time is not generally recorded. The data available is presented by hospital. Details on a site by site basis are set out in the Appendix.

Following endorsement of the Lymphoedema /Lipoedema Model of Care (MOC) by the HSE in early 2019, approval was given by the HSE to move ahead with the planning for the MOC and initiate the implementation of the MOC through a Proof of Concept approach. This enabling approach commenced with 2 Proof of Concept sites – 1 Specialist Lymphoedema Clinic (SLC) in Primary Care and 1 Early Detection Service (EDS) in Oncology and has further developed with 3 SLC’s in the community and 2 EDS in the acute hospitals currently.

The Proof of Concept services are funded on a temporary year-to-year basis through an allocation of €904,740. Permanent funding in the order of €8m annually is required to enable the full roll out of the MOC. Resource of €2.2m is required in 2025 to permanently fund a Specialist Lymphoedema Clinic in each of the 6 Health Care Regions.



I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Crowley', is written over a horizontal line.

Geraldine Crowley,  
Assistant National Director,  
Enhanced Community Care Programme &  
Primary Care Contracts



## Appendix

### RCSI Hospital Group

In 2023, RCSI Hospital Group hospitals had a total of 212 patients all waiting less than 3 months for lymphoedema services. By end of Q2 2024, hospitals had a total of 42 patients waiting for lymphoedema services.

Hospital: St James Hospital				
2023				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
0 - 3 months	Not available	Not available	Not available	
3 - 6 months				
6 - 9 months				
9 - 12 months				
<b>Total</b>				
2024				
	Q1	Q2		
0 - 3 months	10	10		
3 - 6 months				
6 - 9 months				
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>		
University Hospital Waterford				
2023				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
0 - 3 months	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
3 - 6 months	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
6 - 9 months	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
9 - 12 months	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>Total</b>	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2024				
	Q1	Q2		
0 - 3 months	Nil	Nil		
3 - 6 months	Nil	Nil		
6 - 9 months	Nil	Nil		
<b>Total</b>				
University Hospital Kerry (UHK)				
2023				



	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
0 - 3 months				
3 - 6 months				
6 - 9 months				
9 - 12 months				
<b>Total</b>				
2024				
	Q1	Q2		
0 - 3 months		20		
3 - 6 months		1		
6 - 9 months		0		
<b>Total</b>		21		
<b>South Infirmary-Victoria University Hospital (SIVUH)</b>				
2023				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
0 - 3 months	5	9	10	10
3 - 6 months				
6 - 9 months				
9 - 12 months				
<b>Total</b>	5	9	10	10
2024				
	Q1	Q2		
0 - 3 months	19	15		
3 - 6 months				
6 - 9 months				
<b>Total</b>	19	15		
<b>Cork University Hospital (CUH)</b>				
2023				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
0 - 3 months				
3 - 6 months				
6 - 9 months				
9 - 12 months				
<b>Total</b>				
2024				
	Q1	Q2		
0 - 3 months		38		
3 - 6 months		20		



6 - 9 months		19		
>9 months		41		
<b>Total</b>		118		
<b>University Hospital Limerick</b>				
2023				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
0 - 3 months	10	29	29	17
3 - 6 months				
6 - 9 months				
9 - 12 months				
<b>Total</b>	10	29	29	17
2024				
	Q1	Q2		
0 - 3 months	30	28		
3 - 6 months				
6 - 9 months				
<b>Total</b>	30	28		
<b>Galway University Hospital</b>				
2023				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
0 - 3 months	8	10	8	6
3 - 6 months	0	0	0	0
6 - 9 months	0	0	0	0
9 - 12 months	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	8	10	8	6
2024				
	Q1	Q2		
0 - 3 months	10	12		
3 - 6 months	0	0		
6 - 9 months	0	0		
<b>Total</b>	10	12		
<b>Sligo University Hospital</b>				
2023				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
0 - 3 months	0	1	0	1
3 - 6 months	0	0	0	0
6 - 9 months	1	0	0	0
9 - 12 months	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	1	1	0	1



2024				
	Q1	Q2		
0 - 3 months	3	2		
3 - 6 months	0	0		
6 - 9 months	0	0		
<b>Total</b>	3	2		