



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach
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08 August 2024

**Deputy Séan Crowe
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2**

PQ 32975/24: To ask the Minister for Health for a breakdown of the number of dentists enrolled with the dental treatment service scheme, by county, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Crowe,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

Adult medical card holders have access to dental services under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS) through care provided by private dentists that hold DTSS contracts with the HSE. The DTSS is a “choice of dentist” scheme which does not require the patient to register with a particular dentist and enables medical card holders to attend any DTSS contractor directly without recourse to the HSE. The number private dentists contracted to the DTSS scheme per CHO and LHO is detailed in Appendix 1 (August 2024).

A process to update the contract numbers was undertaken in June 2023. The HSE corresponded with contract holders requesting they review their availability for provision of care for medical card holders. Several contractors contacted the service to advise that while they remain active on the scheme, they have no availability within the practice for new patients- either private or DTSS.

Oral healthcare services for adults are included in the reorientation of services described in Smile Agus Sláinte (National Oral Health Policy) – the implementation of which is included in priorities and funding from budget 2023.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Anne O'Neill

Assistant National Director, Oral Health



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Appendix 1: DTSS Contractors August 2024 Community Healthcare Organisation	DTSS Contracted Dentists
National	930
CHO Area 1	114
LHO 13 - Cavan / Monaghan	54
LHO 19 - Donegal	46
LHO 20 - Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	14
CHO Area 2	88
LHO 16 - Galway	58
LHO 17 - Mayo	24
LHO 18 - Roscommon	6
CHO Area 3	84
LHO 21 - Clare	13
LHO 22 - North Tipp./East Limerick	21
LHO 23 - Limerick	50
CHO Area 4	231
LHO 24 - South Lee	65
LHO 25 - North Lee	88
LHO 26 - West Cork	20
LHO 27 - Kerry	26
LHO 28 - North Cork	32
CHO Area 5	85
LHO 29 - Carlow/Kilkenny	20
LHO 30 - Waterford	26
LHO 31 - South Tipperary	23
LHO 32 - Wexford	16
CHO Area 6	37
LHO 1 - Dun Laoghaire	13
LHO 2 - Dublin South East	8
LHO 7 - Wicklow	16
CHO Area 7	119
LHO 3 - Dublin South City	33
LHO 4 - Dublin South West	33
LHO 5 - Dublin West	16
LHO 6 - Kildare / West Wicklow	37
CHO Area 8	83
LHO 14 - Louth	18
LHO 15 - Meath	18
LHO 8 - Laois / Offaly	14
LHO 9 - Longford / Westmeath	33



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CHO Area 9	89
LHO 10 - Dublin North West	32
LHO 11 - Dublin North Central	30
LHO 12 - Dublin North	27

Included in the table above are the following:

- 118 Dentists employed by the HSE who provide services under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme.
- 25 Clinical Dental Technicians.