



Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúraim Príomhúil  
Cúram Sláinte Pobail Cabhán Dún na nGall  
Liatroim Muineachán, Sligeach  
An Clochar, Sráid an Choláiste, Béal Átha  
Seanaidh, Co Dhun na nGall, F94 TPX4

Head of Service, Primary Care  
Community Healthcare Cavan Donegal  
Leitrim Monaghan Sligo  
HSE, An Clochar, College Street,  
Ballyshannon, Co Donegal, F94 TPX4

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie) @hselive

t: 071 9834627 | 071 9834637

e: HOSPC.CHO1@hse.ie

24<sup>th</sup> July, 2024

Pauline Tully T.D.  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 33536 24 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children and adults on the dental appointment waiting list in County Cavan and County Monaghan; the average waiting times for appointments in each county, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Tully

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 Chief Officer Community Healthcare Cavan Donegal Monaghan Sligo for response.

I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position for Community Healthcare Cavan Donegal Leitrim Monaghan Sligo.

The HSE Dental Services has traditionally operated as a targeted, school-linked service, whereby children in specific primary school classes are targeted for an oral health assessment and for primary care treatment arising there from. Children are eligible for oral health care up to the eve of their 16th birthday. The provision of this service is a statutory requirement for the HSE but the number of children and cohorts examined are dependent on the available resources at any given time. Children who are examined in sixth class are referred to the HSE Orthodontic Service if eligible for publicly funded orthodontic treatment.

HSE Dental Services also provide care for;

- Adults with special needs
- Children with Special Needs
- Emergency treatment for medical card holders unable to access DTSS contracted dentists
- Ukrainian patients
- Patients under International Protection

The service does not hold waiting lists for the School Dental Service but does have lists for each class cohort being treated at any one time. The Dental Service does not hold waiting lists for adults as care is only provided on an emergency basis when patients cannot access care through the DTSS. Special Care adults referred are seen on an ongoing basis and are prioritised for care

Once patients have had an oral health examination they may be referred to the Dental Hygienist for preventative treatments and patients are placed on waiting lists for this service.



The Dental Service also holds waiting lists for patients who require Dental treatment under general anaesthesia. This is carried out in Cavan General Hospital and access is dependent on theatre lists being allocated to the Dental Service by the hospital management  
See below as requested a summary of the waiting lists as of June 2024

### Cavan Monaghan HSE Dental Services Waiting Lists as of May 2024

<b>6<sup>th</sup> Class School Screenings Waiting list June 2024</b>		
<b>Clinic</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>School Year</b>
<b>County Cavan</b>		
Ballyconnell	112	23/24
Cootehill	40	23/24
Drumalee Cavan	311	23/24
Virginia	242	23/24
<b>County Monaghan</b>		
Carrickmacross	194	22/23
Monaghan PCC	93	22/23
Carrickmacross	368	23/24
Monaghan PCC	472	23/24

<b>Special Schools/Units</b>		
County Monaghan	49	23/24
County Cavan	101	23/24

<b>Dental Hygienist Waiting Lists</b>		
		<b>Average waiting time</b>
County Monaghan	165	3 months
County Cavan	164	3 months

<b>General Anaesthetic Waiting Lists</b>			
<b>List</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	<b>Longest Waiting Time</b>	
Paediatric Extraction	107	9 months	Patients are prioritised based on need following pre-assessment clinic.
Special Care Paediatric	45	18 months	Patients are prioritised based on need.
Special Care Adult	55	18 months	Patients are prioritised based on need



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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Emma Ball'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Emma Ball**  
**Acting Head of Service**  
**Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil**  
**Cúram Sláinte Pobail Cabhán Dún na nGall Liatroim Muineachán Sligeach**  
**Head of Service, Primary Care**  
**Community Healthcare Cavan Donegal Leitrim Monaghan Sligo**