



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béil,  
Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,  
An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach  
Teil: 061 492068  
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National Oral Health Office  
Roselawn House, University Business Complex,  
National Technology Park, Castletroy, Limerick  
Tel: 061 492068  
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**08 August 2024**

**Deputy Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire**  
**Dáil Eireann**  
**Leinster House**  
**Kildare Street**  
**Dublin 2**

**PQ 33628/24: To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists operating under the DTSS scheme who are operating in each of the HSE health regions, by county.**

Dear Deputy Ó Laoghaire,

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 is available by Health Region, CHO and LHO area 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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Health Region	Appendix 1: DTSS Contractors August 2024 Community Healthcare Organisation	DTSS Contracted Dentists
	<b>National</b>	<b>930</b>
<b>HSE West and North West:</b>		
	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
<b>HSE MidWest</b>		
	CHO Area 3	84
	LHO 21 - Clare	13
	LHO 22 - North Tipp./East Limerick	21
	LHO 23 - Limerick	50
<b>HSE South West</b>		
	CHO Area 4	231
	LHO 24 - South Lee	65
	LHO 25 - North Lee	88
	LHO 26 - West Cork	20



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	LHO 27 - Kerry	26
	LHO 28 - North Cork	32
<b>HSE Dublin and South East</b>		
	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
<b>HSE Dublin and Midlands</b>		
	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 8 - Laois / Offaly	14
	LHO 9 - Longford / Westmeath	33



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HSE Dublin and North East		
	LHO 14 - Louth	18
	LHO 15 - Meath	18
	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.