



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.
D08 W2A8.

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30th May 2024

Deputy McGrath,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 22271/24 –To ask the Minister for Health the reason no alternative arrangements have been made for the 1,500 or so children waiting on the ophthalmology service, some of whom have been waiting for some time now; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-Mattie McGrath

Dear Deputy McGrath,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 22271/24) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE is currently in the process of implementing multidisciplinary Primary Care Eye Teams (PCET) in order to reduce the numbers waiting for Ophthalmology services within the community setting. These teams will facilitate assessment, diagnoses, management and treatment and in some cases pre-op/post-op care enabling most patients to be seen in their own locality. Where necessary, patients can be referred onwards to acute Ophthalmology services to receive the necessary specialist input.

Primary Care Eye Teams continue to be rolled out nationally. To date, teams have been established in 6 of the 9 CHOs namely; CHO 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, and 9. Work is underway to establish teams in the remaining CHOs as well as further expanding the teams in the existing CHOs.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Sean McArt

General Manager Primary Care,
National Community Operations