



Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Bunchúraim
Cúram Sláinte Phobail, Iarthar, Ceanncheathrú N. Muire,
Caisleán an Bharraigh, Co. Mhaigh Eo, F23 HP58.
T. 094 9049064 / 094 9049069

Head of Primary Care Services
Community Healthcare West, St. Mary's HQ, Castlebar, Co Mayo F23 HP59
T. 094 9049064 / 094 9049069

November 5th, 2024

Deputy Rose Conway-Walsh TD
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE:PQ 43606/24

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of dental practices that are operative in County Mayo; the number of these dental practices are accepting new patients; the number of the dental practices accepting new patients are accepting medical card patients; the number of medical card patients that are currently not registered with any dentist; to outline the procedure for individuals with medical cards who are unable to register with a dentist; and if he will make a statement on the matter"

Dear Deputy Rose Conway Walsh

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 Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position in Primary Care.

There are 10 Dental practices in Co. Mayo with 19 DTSS contractors.

Capacity changes and it is not possible to say who is accepting new patients however the information from the PCRS trends data for October 2024 show that there were claims submitted by all 19 contractors. With regard to the number of medical card patients not registered with any Dentist 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 contractor directly without recourse to the HSE.

Where access to a Dentist is difficult, local HSE Dental services assist patients with their enquiries and make the up to date lists available to them. In exceptional circumstances the HSE have directly assisted patients to access emergency dental treatment by contacting private contractors or arranging treatment through the HSE employed Dentists directly.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mary Warde



**Integrated Health Area Manager, Mayo
For Primary Care Services**