

Mari O'Donovan Acting Head of Service, Primary Care, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare, Email: <u>Mari.ODonovan@hse.ie</u>

7th October, 2024

Ms. Holly Cairns, T.D., Dáil Éireann, Dublin 2

PQ ref 37307/24

"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of clinical sessions typically offered to children and adolescents of the CHO4 primary care physiotherapy services; and if these clients are placed on another waiting-list following discharge in the event that they require ongoing support."

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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.

All children/adolescents are assessed and provided with a treatment plan based on their individual needs. There are no defined number of appointments provided to children/adolescents as this would not be in keeping with individualised care and clinical prioritisation.

Following an episode of care children/adolescents are discharged with a rehab program and require a new referral to access the service in the future if necessary. In some very limited circumstances such as brachial plexus injury or juvenile arthritis children/adolescents may remain open within the service and be reviewed in a 6 or 12 month period dependent on the clinical need which will be assessed by the Physiotherapist.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mari O'Donovan Acting Head of Service - Primary Care, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare