



23rd July, 2024

Deputy Thomas Gould, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

Re: 30199/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of people availing of a community detox programme in each of the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

An analysis of the data provided in treatment services within the National Drugs Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS) (see information about the [NDTRS](#)) includes all cases treated in all types of services: outpatient, residential (inpatient), low threshold, general practitioners (GPs), and those treated in prison has been conducted. The analysis includes cases treated for problem alcohol or other drugs use and received a community detoxification in Ireland and recorded by the NDTRS for the years 2019 to 2023 inclusive (Table 1).

For the Deputy's information, these figures are likely to be an underestimation in particular as not all GPs currently return data for community detoxifications they provide.

Table 1: Number of cases receiving community detoxification, NDTRS 2019 to 2023

Year entered treatment	Number of cases receiving community detoxification
2019	92
2020	151
2021	113
2022	99
2023	134

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

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Doyle
National Lead, Social Inclusion

