

2026 Pre-Budget Health Survey

Could you please take 5 minutes to complete this anonymous survey? We would like to find out what you think are the most important issues in relation to Health, for the upcoming 2026 Budget. This will assist us greatly in preparing a Pre-Budget Submission to **the Department of Health** that truly represents the lived experiences of older people as our ageing population continues to grow.

Waiting Lists:

1. Are you currently or have you been on a waiting list for a GP/Doctors/ Dental, Orthodontic, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapist, Audiologist, Optician or similar appointment within the last six months?

Yes

No

N/A

If answered **Yes**, for how long? _____

1 yr

18months

Longer

If you have selected **Longer**, for how long? _____

2. While awaiting your appointment, did you find that your health or medical condition worsened over that period of time due to the delay in being seen?

Yes

No

N/A

3. If receiving ongoing treatment or prescription medication for an illness, has delay in getting an appointment affected your condition?

Yes

No

N/A

4. Have you ever received a delayed/late diagnosis due to long waiting times for an appointment?

Yes

No

N/A

5. Do you think that waiting for an appointment with a GP/Doctor or Dentist, for more than 14 days, would negatively impact your health?

Yes

No

N/A

Quality of Care:

6. Are you satisfied with the quality of care you receive from your GP/Doctor?

Yes

No

N/A

7. Are you satisfied with the quality of care you receive from your **non** GP/Doctor Health Professional?

Yes

No

N/A

8. Do you think there is sufficient communication between all of the health professionals you deal with? e.g. Between your GP and your surgeon/hospital or Physiotherapist.

Yes

No

N/A

9. Have you been referred by your GP to a Primary Care Centre?

Yes

No

N/A

10. What do you feel is most needed to improve the overall quality of care in Ireland?

Homecare:

11. Have you or a family member/co-habitant ever availed of home support services (formerly known as the Homecare Package or Home Help Service)?

12. If answered **yes** to the previous question, please tick Yes or NO below:

(a) Were you satisfied with the standard of care received? YES NO

(b) Was there a sufficient number of hours of care received? YES NO

(c) Did the recommended hours meet the need of the person? YES NO

13. Have you or a family member/co-habitant ever been denied or refused homecare hours?

Yes

No

N/A

If answered **Yes**, please state reason: _____

14. Do you think there is sufficient monitoring and/or protections in place in relation to homecare service provision?

Yes

No

N/A

Healthcare planning:

15. If you were in need of any homecare assistance in the future, do you think you would avail of any or all of the below:

HSE (Public) Homecare Private Homecare Care provided by family/friends

16. Have you made known your wishes for, and recorded your preferred option for care?

Yes No

Medical Card:

17. Do you think medical cards should be provided at a certain age or on retirement?

Enter age ____ Retirement

Should it be means tested? Yes No

18. Do you think prescription charges for over 70s should be abolished regardless of having a medical card or not?

Yes No

19. On average, what is your monthly expenditure on medical visits and/or medical supplies? (Over the counter medicine, prescriptions etc.)

- Less than €50
- Less than €100
- Less than €150
- Less than €200
- Other € _____

20. Do you think that the medical card significantly reduces monthly medical costs?

Yes No

21. Do you think that the GP card is a sufficient alternative to the medical card?

Yes No

22. Do you have Private Health insurance?

Yes No

General:

23. Which of the following best describes where you live?

- Rural area (population less than 1,500 persons)
- Town (Population 1,500 or more)
- City

24. To which gender do you most identify?

- Female
- Male
- Transgender
- Non-Binary
- Other

25. Which age grouping includes your age?

- 41 - 50
- 51 - 60
- 61 - 70
- 71 - 80
- 81 - 90
- 91+

Any feedback or additional information regarding this survey can be provided below.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.
Please return as soon as possible either **by post** to the address above
or **by e-mail** to office@seniors.ie. **BY 16th May 2025**



Rialtas na hÉireann
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