

Specialist for Our allergy children

The increasing demand for his services of British paediatric immunologist Dr Andrew Kant has seen waiting times spiral out of control.

Many children are now waiting for 38 months to see the specialist, while in certain cases children are not seeing the specialist at all, depending on the seriousness of their condition.

In one case a child suffering from anaphylaxis remained misdiagnosed for two years because he could not be seen by the required specialist, according to his father.

Allergic diseases are not recognised by the Government as long-term illnesses and therefore are not automatically covered by the medical card scheme.

Every second person in the country is still suffering from an allergy, including hay fever, asthma and anaphylaxis, in seven years' time.



Thousands of youngsters have deadly allergies

the Health Service Executive (HSE) for the appointment of a full-time paediatric immunologist.

She added that the hospital had been informed by the HSE that the appointment is being treated as a priority and the post should be advertised shortly.

The growing number of children with anaphylaxis suffer from vomiting, unconsciousness, black-outs and even death by eating simple everyday foods.

It is estimated that 80,000 Irish people suffer from severe food allergies that could kill them.

At the current rate of increases, more than half the population will suffer from some sort of allergic disease by 2015. The majority occur in children.

Allergies cost European countries over a billion euros every year. Allergies cost Crumlin Children's Hospital is being spent on research waiting for approval from

European governments should leave their consumers at the mercy of a few food-exporting countries in the southern hemisphere amid a few large multinational food trading companies, she said.

10,000 use cars mobiles

ASTAGGERING 10,000 motorists have been caught using mobile phones while driving since it became a penalty point offence just over six months ago.

Garda figures show more than 400 drivers a week are caught talking or texting on their phone while behind the wheel.

The most recent figures from the Department of Transport reveal that up until the end of February 5,427 notices were issued to drivers about mobile phones.

Salt intake is still too high

SALT consumption has dropped but is still on average 6,600mg higher than the recommended amount, new research revealed today.

Tests on 1,287 adults showed their average salt intake was 9,900mg per day compared to 6,650mg when the last tests were done in 2001.

Efforts to reduce salt intake have been slow, researchers say.

But consumers are still

No fat

Caroline Crawford

CHILDREN who suffer from potentially fatal allergies are being forced up to 48 months before they can see a specialist.

The shocking wait for children with allergies is because of no paediatric immunologist in the health system.

This is despite the fact Ireland has one of the highest rates of allergic diseases in the world.

One in 12 Irish children now suffer from anaphylaxis, a severe allergy to milk, eggs and certain nuts.

Numbers of children suffering from the condition have tripled since 1999.

Despite the growing numbers of children with dangerous conditions, no specialist has been appointed, but consumers

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