



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,  
Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,  
An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach  
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05 April 2024

Deputy Colm Burke  
Dáil Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ 53564/23: To ask the Minister for Health what action his Department is taking to ensure that people living with epidermolysis bullosa have access to dental care, given that those affected by the condition may require to travel long distances to receive care in specialist treatment centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Burke,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

Epidermolysis bullosa is a chronic skin condition with different levels of expression in individual patients. Unfortunately it is the nature of this condition that some patients are more appropriately provided with dental care in specialist centres. The HSE Community Dental Service has a programme for patients with special needs. Patients under the care of hospital consultants for this condition may be referred to the HSE Community Dental Service if their consultant considers it appropriate for the level of the experience.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

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**Anne O'Neill**  
Assistant National Director, Oral Health