



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 Sean Fleming
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 55278/23: To ask the Minister for Health the locations where people who require serious dental treatment (details supplied) can obtain this in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Fleming,

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.

HSE Community Dental Service has a special needs programme, which supports patients who have additional needs, a portion of whom are unable to cooperate with operative dental treatment without the assistance of some level of sedation. The decision to provide that care under 'waking' sedation or full general anaesthetic is prompted by either the patient's ability to cooperate or the level of treatment required.

General anaesthetic services for primary care dental patients is facilitated in a number of locations. Most locations are HSE hospitals but in some cases lists are carried out in private hospitals through local arrangements. Children with complex medical needs or who are under the age of 2 are referred to Our Lady's Hospital Crumlin, and Temple Street Hospital. Access to theatre time for dental patients can be limited as the same facilities are also used to provide elective and urgent surgeries for other hospital based services.

Table 1 below shows the geographical spread of general anaesthetic facilities which have provided theatre time for dental services. Not all locations are currently in position to provide theatre time.

HOSPITAL
Letterkenny University Hospital
Sligo University Hospital
Castlebar University Hospital
Roscommon General Hospital
University College Hospital Galway
Portiuncula Hospital
University Hospital Limerick
Nenagh General Hospital



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Aut Even Hospital Kilkenny
University Hospital Tralee
Bon Secours Hospital Tralee
Cavan General Hospital
Louth County Hospital
Wexford General Hospital
Waterford General Hospital
Naas General Hospital
Kilkenny General Hospital (St. Lukes)
Cork university Hospital
Connolly Hospital
Tullamore General Hospital
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital

Table 1 Locations providing dental general anaesthetic services

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

Yours Sincerely,

Anne O'Neill
Assistant National Director, Oral Health