



10th April 2024

Mr Duncan Smith TD,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 13876/24 To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons aged 0-18 years of age who travelled outside of the State for specialist neurosurgery treatment not available within the State in 2023 via the HSE treatment abroad scheme

Dear Deputy Smith,

Thank you for your Parliamentary Question referenced above, which has been forwarded to me for direct reply.

In general the Treatment abroad scheme (TAS) covers the cost of planned treatment in another country in the European Union (EU), European Economic Area (EEA), United Kingdom or Switzerland.

The treatment must be within Irish law and either:

- not available in Ireland, or
- not available in the time normally necessary to get it in Ireland - taking into account your health and the likely course of your condition or disease

In line with Data Protection and in the interest of patient confidentiality, please note that it is not possible to provide the data requested. The data is at such a level that service users would be deemed to be potentially identifiable.

Public patient pathways as they apply to accessing the healthcare in Ireland equally apply to accessing the healthcare abroad under the CBD. If a patient has any question they may contact the National Contact Point via email crossborderdirective@hse.ie or telephone 056 77 84546. Patients are also welcome to call to the National Contact Point office which is located Seville Lodge, Callan Road, Kilkenny.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Walsh'.

David Walsh
National Director
National Schemes & Reimbursement