



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,
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Deputy Dara Calleary
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

8020/24: To ask the Minister for Health if GMS dental patients who cannot access dentists in Ireland can travel to Northern Ireland to have procedures done and if not, can the HSE refund or part refund the costs.

Dear Deputy Calleary,

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.

Medical card holders access dental care in the Republic through a contracted dentist scheme known as the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS). They may choose to attend any contracted dentist throughout the Republic – i.e. it does not require registration unlike the medical scheme.

As there is no HSE reimbursement pathway for medical card holders who access dental care privately in the Republic (outside the DTSS), there is no reimbursement for private treatment through the Northern Ireland Planned Healthcare Scheme (NIPHS).

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

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Anne M O'Neill
Assistant National Director, Oral Health