



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach
Teil: 061 492068
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Roselawn House, University Business Complex,
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10 July 2024

Deputy Roisin Shortall
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 27119/24: To ask the Minister for Health the total spend on the dental treatment services scheme in 2009; the cost to maintain 2009 levels of spending on the scheme between the years 2010 and 2023 respectively, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Shortall,

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.

Adult medical card holders have access to dental services under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS) through care provided by private dentists that hold DTSS contracts with the HSE. The DTSS is a “choice of dentist” scheme which does not require the patient to register with a particular dentist and enables medical card holders to attend any DTSS contractor directly without recourse to the HSE.

The value of claims reimbursed on the DTSS and the total number of treatments for each year from 2009 to 2023 is detailed in the table below.

Due to economic issues in 2009/2010, additional rationalisation measures were introduced to enable financial controls on the spend, as spending had exceeded allocated budget at the time. Since 2009 there have been a variety of issues which have impacted on the spend within the scheme - COVID-19 2020-2022, reducing the number of contractors 2017-2023.

Year	Value of claims reimbursed	Total number of treatments
2009	€86,834,606	1,584,598
2010	€75,768,061	1,408,686
2011	€52,260,023	1,030,032
2012	€62,717,122	1,198,124
2013	€69,749,991	1,310,773
2014	€69,782,332	1,312,383
2015	€66,505,516	1,250,925
2016	€64,393,261	1,215,042
2017	€63,369,808	1,194,730
2018	€58,680,201	1,113,774
2019	€56,075,566	1,049,293
2020	€40,549,163	789,940



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2021	€39,595,484	760,047
2022	€49,437,639	815,346
2023	€64,792,282	970,210

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