



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,
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20 December 2024

**Deputy Colm Brophy
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2**

PQ 45920/24

To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of increasing funding to the dental treatment services scheme by 10%.

Dear Deputy Brophy,

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.

Dentists were reimbursed a total of €64.82m in 2023 in respect of treatments provided for 283,658 GMS persons under the DTS Scheme. The estimated cost (assuming the same level of uptake and treatments being provided) of increasing funding to the DTSS by 10% based on 2023 spend is €6.482m

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