



Ref: PQ 43474/24

28<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Deputy Róisín Shortall**  
**Dáil Eireann**  
**Dublin 2**

Dear Deputy Shortall

I refer to your below parliamentary question which has been forwarded to me for attention. Firstly, please accept my apologies for the delay in issuing a response.

**PQ 43474/24 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of children who have undergone spinal surgeries abroad since an agreement was reached with facilities in other jurisdictions; the number of children's spinal surgeries currently scheduled to take place in these facilities, by location; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Response:**

In total to date, the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2024, 5 patients have had their spinal surgery completed in London and 6 children have had surgery completed in New York. There is another 4 patients with surgery dates this year in New York. If all these procedures go ahead as planned, the total number of children who will have had surgery abroad by the end of 2024 is 15.

For more information please visit <https://www.childrenshealthireland.ie/list-of-services/orthopaedics/spinal-surgeries-abroad/>

Yours sincerely

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