



Stiúrthóir Rochtana

Oifig an Stiúthóra Náisiúnta um Rochtain agus Imeascadh

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Deputy Peadar Tóibín

20th September 2024

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2.

PQ: 35593/24 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of people who were removed from public healthcare waiting lists as a result of having passed away, and the numbers who had removed themselves from public healthcare waiting lists as a result of opting to pay for private healthcare treatment, for each of the past five years, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Response:

In relation to your request above, the HSE does not collect this information centrally.

However, on an ongoing basis waiting lists are validated for outpatients, inpatients, day cases and GI scopes. Validation of waiting lists is a process whereby the accuracy of waiting lists is checked by asking patients whether they still require their procedure.

The National Centralised Validation Unit (NCVU) was established in the National Treatment Purchase Fund in September 2018. The purpose of the unit is to work in conjunction with hospitals to validate waiting lists using a streamlined and standardised process.

Checking the accuracy of waiting lists on an ongoing basis is an important part of waiting list management as it will improve patient waiting times by:

- Identifying patients on waiting lists who are ready to proceed with hospital care
- Reducing the number of patients who do not attend for their appointment
- Allowing hospitals to better manage waiting lists by improving data accuracy

In 2023 129,437 patients were removed from waiting lists through the validation process and in 2024, 78,462 (January – August) patients were removed from waiting lists through the validation process.



Validation is completed in line with the National Inpatient, Day Case, Planned Procedure (IDPP) and GI Endoscopy Waiting List Management Protocol 2024 available at <https://www.ntpf.ie/home/nwlg.htm> and the National Outpatient (OP) Waiting List Management Protocol (2022) available at <https://www.ntpf.ie/home/nwlgOP.htm>

I trust that this addresses your query.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Trish King'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'K' at the end.

Trish King,
Access & Integration