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Deputy Roisin Shorthall TD, Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

13th December 2019

PO48424/19*

To ask the Minister for Health the total expenditure on the cross border directive since its inception; the organisations which are participating in the operation of the directive; the role of the HSE in operating this directive; the companies with which it is operating in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Shorthall,

Thank you for your PQ above, which has been forwarded to me for direct reply.

The table below provides the most up-to-date activity data on the scheme:

Activity Description	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	<u>2019</u>
Forms Issued by the NCP	37	1,594	2,515	4,081	5,166	3,812
Queries to the NCP	94	4,591	5,571	4,828	3,250	3,209
Reimbursements processed	7	150	1,025	2,011	3,886	4,365
Prior Authorisation Applications processed	30	219	324	1,219	1,493	1,546
Cost of reimbursements*	€29,265	€585,863	€2,499,967	€4,433,642	€12,288,398	€11,342,502.53

With regard to the second part of your questions "; the organisations which are participating in the operation of the directive; the role of the HSE in operating this directive; the companies with which it is operating in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter." The operation of the directive is a function of the Health Service Executive and specifically the National Contact Point office. Each country is required to establish at least one national contact point for the operation of the Directive and the HSE has established the National Contact Point (NCP) office in Kilkenny.

The HSE's NCP office does not operate the scheme in conjunction with companies or healthcare providers. The provision of the healthcare is between the patient and their chosen provider abroad and the submission of appropriate documentation in applying for the scheme is a matter for the patient. The HSE's NCP office processes applications for prior authorisation and claims for reimbursement for patients who have chosen to access their healthcare abroad under the provisions of the Directive.

If you have any queries, or would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0872668759 or via catherinet.donohoe@hse.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Donohoe

A/Assistant National Director