



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

27th November 2019

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan
An Ceantar Theas
An Bothar Mileata
Cill Mhaighneann
BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

PQ 47070/19 * *To ask the Minister for Health the number of scoliosis procedures undertaken in each of the past five years to date; the number availing of such treatments on a daily and weekly basis in each of the past two years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

PQ 49152/19 * *To ask the Minister for Health the number of children or other patients that have undergone scoliosis procedures on a monthly basis in the past two years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy Durkan,

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.

The HSE National Service Plan 2019 sets out among its priorities and actions to continue to build on the improvements in access to paediatric orthopaedics including surgery for scoliosis to ensure clinically appropriate waiting times, to continue close working between Cappagh Orthopaedic Hospital and Children's Health Ireland (Temple Street) to ensure that children / young adults have their scoliosis surgery undertaken in the most appropriate setting, based on clinical need and within clinically appropriate timeframe and to continue the implementation of the care pathway for the transition of adolescents with scoliosis from Children's Health Ireland (Crumlin Services) to the MMUH.

Please see attached report sourced from the Hospital Pricing Office (HPO) via the Hospital In-patient Enquiry system (HIPE).

HIPE data is based on hospitalisations which may include multiple admissions for the same patient. Therefore, it is not possible to use HIPE to examine certain parameters such as the number of hospital encounters per patient, or to estimate incidence or prevalence of disease.

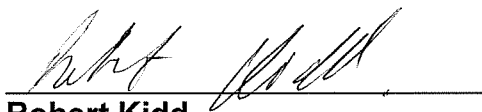
The report shows discharges with a principal diagnosis of scoliosis and also being classified to a surgical DRG (Table 1). (Definitions of principal diagnosis and surgical DRG may be found in the notes contained within the spread sheet). HIPE coding also advised to report on other spinal deformities so these are reported separately in table 2. Daily and weekly figures for years 2017-2018 were too small to report (The HPO does not disclose of five or less), so monthly figures are reported for these years (Table 3).

In summary, the following tables are provided:

- Table 1. Total number of HIPE discharges for the years 2014-2018, with a principal diagnosis of scoliosis, from the specified code list, and being classified into a surgical DRG.
- Table 2. Total number of HIPE discharges for the years 2014-2018, with a principal diagnosis from the specified code list for other spinal deformities, and being classified into a surgical DRG.
- Table 3. Monthly HIPE discharges for the years 2017-2018, with a principal diagnosis of scoliosis, from the specified code list, and being classified into a surgical DRG.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Kidd
Assistant National Director
Scheduled Care
Acute Operations