



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil, Oifig an Príohifigeach Cliniciúil  
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Deputy Joe Flaherty, TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**RE: PQ 43258/20**

**To ask the Minister for Health if consideration will be given to rolling out the Sligo scheme for cataract treatment nationwide (details supplied)**

Dear Deputy Flaherty,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology, working with clinicians, allied health professionals and colleagues across acute and community services, has developed a model for the delivery of ophthalmology services. This model includes the implementation of integrated eye care teams working across the hospital groups and community healthcare organisations (CHOs). These teams include Consultant Medical Ophthalmologists, Optometrists, Orthoptists, Nurses and Technicians. Working with the surgical service, the teams will deliver pre-operative and post-operative cataract care in the community. The first teams have been established in CHOs 6, 7 and 9. Work is ongoing to establish teams across other hospitals/CHOs nationally. This model is an effective mechanism for the delivery of quality eye care in the HSE.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

**Anne Horgan**  
**General Manager**