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April 8th 2021,

Deputy Griffin,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ14608/21: To ask the Minister for Health the number of cases in 2020 or the most recent full year for which such data exists in which pregnant women were referred by a hospital to a hospital in the UK or elsewhere abroad for further medical intervention; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Griffin,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

No data is collected on women who may be referred abroad when pregnant. A small number of women may be referred abroad for specific complex procedures such as intrauterine surgery not available in Ireland & intravenous infusion of medication used in the treatment of recurrent miscarriage.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Kilian McGrane, Director, National Women and Infants Health Programme