



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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Deputy Ged Nash TD,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

18th November 2021

PQ53469/21* *“To ask the Minister for Health if he will clarify the immediate future of the cross-Border Northern Ireland planned healthcare scheme; the conditions and treatments the scheme covers; the number of patients from the Ireland who utilised the scheme in 2018, 2019 and 2020, in tabular form; the treatments they underwent; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”*

Dear Deputy Nash,

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

The provisions of the Northern Ireland Planned Healthcare Scheme (NIPHS) allow public patients in Ireland access healthcare in the private healthcare sector of Northern Ireland that is available and/or funded by the HSE in Ireland. In other words any condition for which treatment is available in the public healthcare system and any public patient treatment which is available from or funded by the HSE may be accessed under the provisions of the Scheme.

I am happy to advise that the Dept. of Health have confirmed that the NIPHS will continue into 2022 and legislation in this regard is currently being drafted.

As the scheme was introduced in 2021, the data you have requested is not available for prior years, however, the tables below provide details of patients who accessed the HSE CBD in those years and a breakdown of those who availed of the HSE CBD in Northern Ireland specifically based on the episode of care undertaken.

HSE CBD Activity	2018	2019	2020	Jan to Sept 2021
No. of reimbursements	3886	4961	4707	1623
Cost of reimbursement	€12,288,398	€13,121,259	€15,376,336	€6,566,834.06


Year	Northern Ireland		
	In patient	Day Case/ Out Patient	Total
2017	373	1287	1660
2018	1065	5026	6091
2019	1099	6095	7194
2020	1228	6471	7699

The most common medical specialities which patients accessed care under the HSE CBD are:

Orthopaedics
Ophthalmology
ENT
Orthodontics
Gynaecology

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