



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive



University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

OFFICE OF THE CEO  
SOUTH / SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL GROUP  
ERINVILLE  
WESTERN ROAD  
CORK  
T12 EDK0  
Tel: 021 - 4921509

11<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Deputy Pa Daly,  
2 Moyderwell,  
Tralee,  
Co. Kerry

PQ Ref: 49640/21

**\* To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients referred from County Kerry to County Cork for an MRI in each of the past 36 months by public and private in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Pa Daly**

Dear Deputy Daly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question in so far as it relates to the South/South West Hospital Group, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. We have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

There is one MRI onsite at University Hospital Kerry (UHK) which is used by both public and private patients.

It is only in specialised cases that a patient from UHK would be referred to Cork for an MRI e.g. children less than 6 years of age, patients who require a General Anaesthetic (GA), cardiac patients etc.

Unfortunately UHK are unable to provide exact figures for the number of patients referred from Kerry to Cork for an MRI over the past 36 months as the ICT system currently in use at the hospital does not allow this information to be extracted in the format requested. This issue was further exacerbated by the recent HSE cyber-attack in May 2021.

If you have a query in relation to a referral for a particular patient, please provide my office with the relevant details and I will follow up on same.

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,

---

Mr. Gerry O' Dwyer  
CEO,  
South/South West Hospital Group  
E-mail [ceo.sswhg@hse.ie](mailto:ceo.sswhg@hse.ie)