



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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Deputy David Cullinane TD,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

22nd September 2021

PQ 44392/21* *“To ask the Minister for Health if Irish citizens can access public funding, either on a standard or exceptional basis for medical treatment outside of the EU, EEA, Switzerland or the UK; the authority that authorises same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”*

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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

The HSE operates schemes under applicable EU and Irish legislation and/or guidelines from the Department of Health for the funding of healthcare outside the state e.g. the Treatment Abroad Scheme (TAS), the HSE Cross Border Directive, the Northern Ireland Planned Healthcare Scheme, etc.

Access to planned healthcare outside the legislation and guidelines e.g. access to healthcare outside the EU/EEA, Switzerland and the UK, is administered through the office of the TAS using the same criteria etc as applies to applications to the TAS for funding. In general where a treatment or an equivalent treatment is available in Ireland and/or the EU/EEA/Switzerland/UK, such treatment would not be approved for funding outside of the available schemes which have a legislative basis.

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.