



Géaroibríochtaí
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Míleata Cill Mhaighneann, Baile Átha Cliath 8

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Deputy Paul Murphy TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ No. 4522/22

To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether there is a need for a publicly funded service to get excess skin removed for those who have gone through bariatric surgery.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

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.

Response:

The National Clinical Programme for Surgery (NCPS) have advised they support the Obesity Model of Care for the Management of Overweight and Obesity, which recommends a plastic surgeon be part of level 4 obesity services to provide post-operative assessment following bariatric surgery once weight stable for clinically significant redundant skin folds which impact on quality of life and pose risk of infection.

While there is currently no dedicated service for excess skin removal following bariatric surgery. Occasional surgeries are performed at present when the degree of compromise resulting from the redundant skin is clinically significant. Depending on the level of weight loss, procedures such as abdominoplasty, mastopexy, brachioplasty and panniculectomy may be performed post-bariatric surgery.

A submission has been made to the 2022 estimates process by the Obesity National Clinical Programme for funding for a plastic surgeon in Ireland East Hospital Group via Scheduled Care Transformation fund this year which would be supported by the NCPS. There are plans

to further develop plastic surgery services within level 4 bariatric services as they are established in Saolta and South/South West Hospital Groups.

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,



Emma Benton

General Manager

Acute Operations