



Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil; Oifig an Príohifigeach Cliniciúil  
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Deputy Thomas Pringle, TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**RE: PQ 54265/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health if he accepts the recommendations of the "Health Technology Assessment of Metabolic Surgery" contained in the report by HIQA in July 2022 to fund a programme of metabolic surgery in 2023.**

Dear Deputy Pringle,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme (NCP) for Diabetes and NCP Obesity on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The NCP Diabetes and NCP Obesity support the findings in the HIQA report showing metabolic surgery is safe and cost effective for treatment of Type 2 diabetes and obesity. Metabolic surgery is a highly effective treatment for co-morbid Type 2 Diabetes and Obesity that should be accessible for appropriate individuals.

Bariatric surgery programmes that have been funded as part of the HSE Obesity Care Pathway will build up the expertise to perform operations for the treatment of severe and complex obesity.

To ensure that metabolic and bariatric surgery services do not compete for resources, consideration should be given to funding metabolic surgery through a separate funding stream to the obesity care pathway and establishment of metabolic surgery services in hospitals not currently conducting bariatric surgery, ideally in a way that would provide an equitable geographic distribution of services.

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

**Anne Horgan**  
General Manager