



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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Deputy Matt Carthy TD,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

12th December 2022

PQ5881822* *“To ask the Minister for Health if dental treatments under the Northern Ireland planned healthcare scheme have to be carried out in an acute hospital setting, as opposed to a dental clinic, in order to qualify for reimbursement; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”*

Dear Deputy Carthy,

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

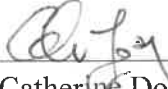
The HSE Northern Ireland Planned Healthcare Scheme allows for a patient to access healthcare in the private sector in Northern Ireland, which they would have been entitled to receive in the public system in Ireland and claim reimbursement from the HSE for the applicable medical expenses.

In Ireland, eligibility to public funding of primary care is managed, organised and reimbursed through the Primary Care Reimbursement Scheme (PCRS). Under the remit of the PCRS patients who are eligible for public funding of primary care are issued with medical cards. Primary care includes GP and dental services. Where a patient is seeking to access dental care from a primary care provider who is not contracted to the HSE for the provision of those services to medical card patients, reimbursement of the care is via application to the PCRS. This includes where a patient accesses the dental care in Northern Ireland.

Without details of a specific case I am unable to be more definitive in my reply, but would be happy to review a case and provide a detailed response should you wish to provide the patient information to me.

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