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Deputy Charles Flanagan TD, Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

28th October 2022

PQ52287/22*

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of children referred from Ireland to a clinic (details supplied) for gender identity treatment in each of the past ten years."

Details Supplied: the number of boys and girls The UK Tavistock Clinic

Dear Deputy Flanagan,

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

To the best of my knowledge the HSE does not hold centrally details of referrals of children abroad to Tavistock in the way that would answer the question posed. Children and indeed adults are referred for treatment via their treating consultant. Such referrals may be public or private and may or may not in the case of public referrals seek funding from the HSE via the Treatment Abroad Scheme (TAS). In general the TAS allows for the funding of a public patient accessing healthcare which is not available in the public healthcare system in Ireland for which the patient has been referred to the public healthcare system of another EU/EEA, the UK or Switzerland.

The table below provides confirmation of the total number of paediatric patients who have applied for and been approved funding under the provisions of the TAS to access psychology services in the Tayistock & Portman Clinic.

No. of applications approved for funding under the TAS for services provided at the Tavistock Centre, London.	2012-2022 (year to date)
Total Number of patients referred	129

If you have any queries, or would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0872668759 or via <u>catherinet.donohoe@hse.ie.</u>

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Donohoe

A/Assistant National Director