



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta  
Géaroibríochtaí

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Deputy Catherine Murphy  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

19<sup>th</sup> July 2023

***PQ 33783/23 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of selective dorsal rhizotomy surgeries carried out in public hospitals here in 2021, 2022 and to-date in 2023, in tabular form; and the public hospitals in which this surgery is carried out. -Catherine Murphy***

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.

The Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE) system is a health information system, managed by the Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO) of HSE Finance and is designed to collect clinical and administrative data on discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals in Ireland. HIPE discharges are clinically coded from charts in the hospitals.

HIPE colleagues have advised that they are able to provide information for this request but not specifically for the activity referenced. The procedure code of '40330-00 Decompression of spinal nerve roots' was used to capture this activity but is not exclusive to selective dorsal rhizotomy surgeries. It also consists of facetectomy, foramenotomy and rhizolysis surgeries. HIPE was unable to identify which specific procedures were selective dorsal rhizotomy surgeries.

Please find included Excel with HIPE data for the procedure code of '40330-00 Decompression of spinal nerve roots' including general notes provided by the HPO. Note this data is categorised by hospital group.

The HPO advise that the HIPE system is not an operational database, it is not updated nationally on a real-time or daily basis and is not considered final until it is closed in the following year.

The file for 2023 remains open and therefore is unavailable at this time.



I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nessa Lynch', written over a horizontal line.

**Nessa Lynch**  
**General Manager**  
**Acute Operations**

