



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta
Géaroibríochtaí

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Deputy Róisín Shortall TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House Dublin 2

8th August 2023

PQ 36476/23

To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to improve access to vaginal mesh removal procedures; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Shortall,

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.

In 2020 the HSE funded multi-disciplinary teams (MDT) National Mesh Complication Service across 2 centres – National Maternity Hospital (NMH) in Dublin and Cork's University Maternity Hospital (CUMH), to provide expert specialist care to women requiring mesh removal.

This is one service across two centres with both centres operational. Two full time administrators have been assigned to the Mesh Complications Service with the purpose of assisting patients in navigating the pathways and services.

Women can be referred to the National Mesh Complications Service by their primary Consultant or GP via the designated email pathway. Information on referral pathways to the Mesh Complications Service was circulated by the National Director of Acute Operations to all Hospital Groups. Additionally, the information was shared by the NCAGL for Primary Care to General Practitioners nationally.

These centres have clear dedicated MDT treatment pathways for women with post mesh complications. Patients are supported along their journey with the input of specialist physiotherapists, pain specialists, clinical nurse specialists and psychological counselling, as required.

Further information is available at the HSE and HPRA Vaginal Mesh Implant homepage:

HSE:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/acute-hospitals-division/woman-infants/vaginal-mesh-implants/>

HPRA:

<http://www.hpra.ie/homepage/medical-devices/special-topics/vaginal-mesh-implants>

The National Vaginal Mesh Implant Oversight Group is currently reviewing the information available as part of its work.

Yours sincerely,

Nessa Lynch
General Manager Acute Operations