



25th October 2023

Deputy Richard Bruton TD,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 41995/23 To ask the Minister for Health the estimated number of patients who have been treated abroad under different options in the year to date; if he has any breakdown of this number by procedure or specialty, and if the conditions for obtaining treatment in the UK and Northern Ireland, or in other member states of the EU is likely to change in the coming year; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Bruton,

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

Access under the Treatment Abroad Scheme is governed by EU Regulation 883/2004 and access to healthcare under the Cross Border Directive is governed by EU Directive 2011/24/EU. As these are European Commission legislative frameworks changes to these schemes would be determined by the European Commission and implemented by the Health Service Executive.

The Northern Ireland Planned Healthcare Scheme (NIPHS), continues to be operated on an administrative basis. The Department of Health has indicated legislation in respect of the NIPHS will be forthcoming in the near future.

The Cross Border Directive was established in June 2014, with the first cross border activity under the Northern Ireland Planned Healthcare Scheme taking place from 2021.

In the current year the following tables set out the activity;

**CBD Approved Applications for Reimbursement by Specialty by EU Member States Including UK
Transitional Arrangements 2023**

Top List of Procedures/ Major Diagnostic Category Q1-Q4 2023	Q1	Q2	Q3	2023 Total
Orthopaedics	505	563	791	1859
Ophthalmology	59	41	75	175
ENT	30	43	81	154
Orthodontics	65	87	69	221
Gynaecology	46	28	41	115
Neurology	46	27	110	183
General Surgery	37	56	98	191
Infectious Diseases	4	12	8	24
Gastroenterology	97	204	130	431
Urology	8	18	10	36
Plastic Surgery	10	28	21	59
Vascular	8	7	34	49
Cardiology	0	1	4	5
Dermatology	1	5	0	6
Rehabilitation	5	30	5	40
Other	0	0	11	11
Rheumatology	2	0	1	3
Oral & Maxillo-Facial	4	0	3	7
Radiology	0	1	0	1
Psychiatry	0	0	0	0
Endocrinology	8	11	35	54
Podiatric	0	2	0	2
Colorectal	1	2	4	7
Dental	1	0	3	4
Paediatrics	0	1	0	1
Oncology	0	0	2	2
Pain Management	0	0	0	0
Respiratory	0	0	0	0
Physiotherapy	0	62	13	75
Grand Total	937	1229	1549	3715

NIPHS Activity by Specialty 2023 Oct YTD

	Q1	Q2	Q3	2023 Total
Orthopaedics	760	679	737	2176
Ophthalmology	595	683	772	2050
ENT	122	147	232	501
Neurology	49	52	61	162
Gynaecology	32	57	81	170
General Surgery	58	34	56	148
Gastroenterology	10	31	14	55
Rehabilitation	0	2	0	2
Urology	45	42	53	140
Vascular	43	63	60	166
Cardiology	11	17	22	50
Dermatology	9	17	47	73
Oral & Maxillo-Facial	0	14	10	24
Plastic Surgery	12	22	18	52
Radiology	0	4	3	7
Podiatric	2	17	23	42
Rheumatology	7	2	3	12
Respiratory	0	0	0	0
Dental	7	16	22	45
Pain Management	3	3	1	7
Colorectal	3	8	9	20
Orthodontics	16	61	98	175
Endocrinology	0	4	0	4
Paediatrics	7	1	7	15
Psychiatry	0	0	2	2
Audiology	0	1	0	1
Paediatric gastroenterology	0	0	1	1
Other	0	0	3	3
Grand Total	1791	1977	2335	6103

Activity under the TAS for all Countries (including the UK) by Specialty 2017 – 2023

List of Procedures Major Diagnostic Category	Activity Levels 2023 Qtr1	Activity Levels 2023 Qtr2	Activity Levels 2023 Qtr3	Activity Levels 2023 Qtr4	Activity Levels 2023 YTD
Neurology	14	7	13		34
Other	7	21	18		46
Oncology	21	10	17		48
Haematology	31	26	11		68
Endocrinology	1	5	3		9
Psychiatry	3	1	0		4
Cardiology	7	3	4		14
Ophthalmology	8	11	13		32
G-enterology	3	1	2		6
Nephrology	7	7	5		19
Urology	9	14	9		32
Respiratory	6	4	3		13
Orthopaedics	3	4	5		12
Gynaecology	3	2	0		5
Vascular Surgery	1	7	4		12
Immunology	0	2	2		4
Plastic Surgery	2	1	2		5
Metabolic	0	1	2		3
Hepatology	7	7	5		19
Radiology	5	2	0		7
Neurosurgery	0	0	0		0
Psychology	0	0	0		0
General Surgery	11	0	2		13
Total	149	136	120		405

Yours sincerely,



David Walsh
National Director