



15th May, 2024

Deputy Patrick Costello, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 18882/24

To ask the Minister for Health if reports of transgender people being denied blood tests by GPs will be investigated by the HSE clinical lead for transgender services.

Dear Deputy Costello,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Advisor and Group Lead for Children and Young People (NCAGL C&YP) on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

Gender healthcare is a relatively new area of healthcare where one patient's journey may not be the same as another. A GP will treat each patient as an individual and make clinical decisions including ordering relevant blood tests in partnership with patients, and on a case by case basis.

In order to support patients and medical practitioners, a new national clinical programme for gender healthcare is being initiated by the HSE and the Clinical Lead for the programme is due to take up their post soon. Over the next two years the programme will develop an updated clinical model of care for gender healthcare services for the Irish population.

The model of care will be evidence based where possible and will be developed in a consultative way, engaging with stakeholders, healthcare professionals, including General Practitioners (GPs) and patients, who will be involved in the design of services and advise on the delivery and evaluation of services.

For your information, any person who wishes to make a complaint about a public health service can contact the HSE at 1800 424 555, email yoursay@hse.ie, or visit www.hse.ie.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Anne Horgan
General Manager

