



Oifig an Stiúthóra Náisiúnta um Rochtain agus Imeachadh

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Deputy Patrick Costello
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

25th June 2024

PQ 25276/24 - To ask the Minister for Health the length of the waiting list and how much it currently costs to receive cataract surgery under the Health Service Executive; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Patrick Costello

Dear Deputy Costello,

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.

I understand the Department of Health has replied to you regarding the length of the waiting list for cataract surgery.

Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE) 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, this includes translating medical terminology into alpha-numeric code and using the entire chart to extract the conditions and procedures to create an adequate picture of the patient's health care encounter.

HIPE colleagues have advised costs are not collected at procedure or diagnosis level, only at Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) level.

HIPE colleagues have advised that they have examined HIPE discharges involving a cataract diagnosis and lens procedure. Of these discharges, 93% of episodes grouped to *DRG C16Z Lens Procedures* in DRG version 8 in 2023. The vast majority of these were daycases.

The daycase value for *DRG C16Z* in the 2023 DRG version 8 price list is €1,456.

I trust this is of assistance to you,

Yours Sincerely,

Nessa Lynch
General Manager
Access and Integration