



Ref: PQ 38650/24

22nd November 2024

Deputy Patrick Costello
Dáil Eireann
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy Costello

I refer to your below parliamentary question which has been forwarded to me for attention. Firstly, please accept my apologies for the delay in issuing a response.

PQ 38650/24 – To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of the average waiting time on waiting lists for operations at CHI for those with spina bifida without scoliosis and those with scoliosis; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Response:

Spina Bifida patients are cared for by Children's Health Ireland (CHI) at Temple Street's Multidisciplinary Spina Bifida Clinic. The goal of this clinic is to help children with Spina Bifida stay healthy, gain independence and become confident in their abilities. Recently, Mr Jacques Noel, Consultant in Orthopaedics, has joined the spina bifida complex care team. Mr Noel attends spina bifida clinics twice per month to review patients with spinal issues, specifically.

The data you are seeking is not available in the format requested. CHI does not report average waiting times, and clinical patient details pertaining to medical conditions are not stored on any databases. Therefore, the information you require from CHI would require extensive manual data collection through patient records. The Spinal Surgery Management Unit cannot prioritise this at this time, as patient care must come first.

- For waiting lists and waiting time bands for spinal surgery, please see monthly reports on: www.childrenshealthireland.ie/spinal.
- For waiting lists for other conditions, please visit the NTPF website.

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97 Ireland

Yours sincerely,

Mr. David Moore

Orthopaedic Paediatric Consultant

Email: david.moore@childrenshealthireland.ie

Our Mission is to: Promote and provide child-centred, research-led and learning informed healthcare, to the highest standards of safety and excellence. We will do this in partnership with each other, with children, young people and their families through a network of children's services in Ireland.

CRA Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20202295 **Revenue Charitable Status CHY:** 22235

Board Members: Prof James Browne (Chairman), Mr Con Cronin, Ms Mary Cryan, Ms Mary Donovan, Prof Martin Elliott, Ms Catherine Guy, Dr Gavin Lavery, Mr Bernard McLoughlin, Ms Brigid McManus, Ms Eleanor O'Neill