



Deputy Joe Cooney, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

31st March 2025.

Re: PQ 15621/25
To ask the Minister for Health the number of individuals reimbursed for their insulin pump training and/or its consumables through the EU Treatment Abroad or Cross Border Healthcare Scheme since 2019.

Dear Deputy Cooney,

Thank you for your Parliamentary Question referenced above which has been forwarded to me for direct reply. This response is based on the information set out in the parliamentary question.

In general the Cross Border Directive (CBD) allows public patients to access healthcare in another EU/EEA country which they are entitled to access in Ireland. The patient pays for the treatment up front and claims reimbursement upon return to Ireland. Reimbursement is at the cost of the treatment abroad or the cost of the treatment in Ireland whichever is the lesser. Public patient pathways as they apply to accessing the healthcare in Ireland equally apply to accessing the healthcare abroad under the CBD.

If a patient has any question he/she should contact the National Contact Point via email crossborderdirective@hse.ie or telephone 056 77 84546. Patients are also welcome to call to the National Contact Point office which is located Seville Lodge, Callan Road, Kilkenny.

In general the Treatment Abroad Scheme (TAS) allows public patients in Ireland to access healthcare, which is not available in the public system in Ireland, in another EU/EEA country, the UK or Switzerland. The treatment must be a treatment to which the patient would have been entitled to, if it had been available in the public healthcare system in Ireland. The approval of funding of treatment under the scheme is subject to certain criteria and any application must be submitted in conjunction with the patient's treating consultant in Ireland who the patient is attending in a public patient capacity.

I can confirm that no patients have been recorded as being reimbursed for insulin pump training and/or consumables through either the Treatment Abroad Scheme or the Cross Border Directive scheme.

I hope the above information addresses your query but please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Donohoe
Head of Function/Service