



Deputy Paul Murphy T.D.,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

3rd April 2025

PQ : 17009/25

To ask the Minister for Health if oral immunotherapy will be provided under the TAS.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

Thank you for your parliamentary question referenced above, which was passed to the HSE for response.

In general the Treatment Abroad Scheme (TAS) provides for the funding of a public patient from Ireland to access treatment which is not available in Ireland, in another EU/EEA country, the UK or Switzerland. A core principle of the governing legislation, EU Regulations 883/2004 and 987/2009 is that the patient must apply for and be granted prior authorisation before accessing the treatment. The HSE cannot be held liable for the costs of healthcare, the HSE has not agreed in advance to assume.

I regret it is not possible to provide a definitive answer to your query. Only upon receipt of a fully completed application form accompanied by the relevant referral letter and in some cases the Multi-Disciplinary (MDT) report is it possible to give an answer or decision on an individual case. There are many factors which impact a patient's eligibility for funding and it is only when these can be evaluated at application stage can a definitive decision on an individual case be confirmed.

I further acknowledge your question does not relate to an individual but to a general treatment, oral immunology. However, the same rationale applies as while a particular treatment may qualify for funding for one patient in consideration of his/her clinical condition e.g. complexities, that same treatment may not qualify for funding in respect of another patient for any number of various reasons, e.g. private patient etc.

I am sorry I cannot provide you with a definitive answer to the question posed, but if I can be of any further assistance in this matter please do not hesitate to revert to me.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Donohoe
Head of Function/Service