



Ref: PQ 42826/25

16<sup>th</sup> September 2025

**Deputy Pádraig Rice**  
**Dáil Eireann**  
**Dublin 2**

Dear Deputy Rice

I refer to your parliamentary question below. Firstly, please accept my apologies for the delay in issuing a response.

**PQ 42826/25 – To ask the Minister for Health to provide details of the children currently listed as suspended for surgery initiative from Children's Health Ireland's spinal surgery waiting list; the number scheduled for treatment in the UK or US; and the number scheduled for treatment in Irish private hospitals (details supplied), in tabular form.**

**Details supplied: Blackrock clinic or any others.**

**Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Response:**

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) can advise that as of 03<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 there is currently 16 children suspended from the spinal surgery initiative waiting list.

In line with NTPF guidelines, no patient can be suspended from a waiting list for longer than three months. Every patient who is suspended on CHI's Spinal Surgery waiting list is reviewed by the Spinal Surgery Management Unit on a monthly basis to ensure there are valid reasons for patients to remain in this category and to get them back on the active list as soon as possible. Decisions about next steps for these patients are made as a collaboration between clinicians and patients and their families.

Suspensions are broken down monthly in the Waiting List and Activity Report published on the second Friday of every month (in line with NTPF) on [www.childrenshealthireland.ie/spinal](http://www.childrenshealthireland.ie/spinal).

Please see required data below.

The number of spinal patients scheduled for treatment in the UK, US, or Irish private hospitals (Blackrock clinic or any others) as at the 03 <sup>rd</sup> of September 2025	
Scheduled for treatment in the UK or US	0
Scheduled for treatment in Blackrock Clinic	16

**Children's Health Ireland at Connolly | Crumlin | Tallaght | Temple Street**

**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), Ms Mary Cryan, Ms Mary Donovan, Ms Catherine Guy, Dr Gavin Lavery, Ms Brigid McManus, Ms Eleanor O'Neill

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

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**Mr. David Moore**

**Clinical Lead for Spinal Services**

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