



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta
um Rochtain agus Imeascadh

Ospideal an Dr. Steevens
Baile Atha Cliath, D08 W2A8

Office of the National Director
Access and Integration

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Deputy Matt Carthy
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

24th July 2025

PQ 34349/25 To ask the Minister for Health in response to reports that CHI orthopaedic surgeons performed hip surgeries at University Hospital Galway and Cork in recent years, who approved sending CHI orthopaedic doctors to Galway and Cork; whether this was part of an official waiting-list initiative or NTPF arrangement; if the same oversight and patient-selection standards applied there as CHI sites; whether the orthopaedic doctors concerned were paid over the accepted rates; if so, the reason; and if she will make a statement on the matter - Matt Carthy

Dear Deputy Carthy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

In view of the HSE Reform Programme and in line with Sláintecare, operational accountabilities have changed, Regional Executive Officers (REOs) are accountable and responsible for operational service delivery provision for regional health and social care services.

In order to respond to the query you have raised, Access and Integration contacted colleagues in the relevant Health Regions offices to provide the relevant response and position in this regard.

Please see the attached PDFs documents containing the regional responses to your PQ.

Yours sincerely,

Nessa Lynch
General Manager
Access and Integration



Integrated Health Area Manager, Galway Roscommon

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16th July, 2025.

**Access & Integration Office,
HSE.**

Email: Access and Integration <AccessandIntegration@hse.ie>;

RE: PQ 34349/25 - To ask the Minister for Health in response to reports that CHI orthopaedic surgeons performed hip surgeries at University Hospital Galway and Cork in recent years, who approved sending CHI orthopaedic doctors to Galway and Cork; whether this was part of an official waiting-list initiative or NTPF arrangement; if the same oversight and patient-selection standards applied there as CHI sites; whether the orthopaedic doctors concerned were paid over the accepted rates; if so, the reason; and if she will make a statement on the matter – Deputy Matt Carthy,

Dear Colleagues,

I refer to your request for a reply directly to your Office, in the context of the above Parliamentary Question. I have examined the matter with Galway University Hospitals (GUH) and the following outlines our position:

We can confirm that this is not a waiting list initiative or NTPF funded initiative. In 2020, a Service Level Agreement (SLA) was put in place between Galway University Hospital (GUH) and Children's Health Ireland (CHI) to provide a service and local access for GUH Paediatric patients with Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip (DDH). GUH engaged with CHI when they were faced with no on-site Paediatric Orthopaedic surgeons due to a retirement and the relocation of the other surgeon to a position outside of GUH. The DDH surgeries were carried out by Paediatric Orthopaedic consultants from Crumlin. Since that time, any paediatric patient who required surgical intervention for DDH has had their procedures carried out in CHI at Crumlin.

However, following an audit, a review was undertaken as requested by the HSE. From the initial review, we identified that a small number of surgeries took place in GUH by CHI Paediatric Orthopaedic Consultants. Upon further review of our data and broadening of the scope, we can confirm that there are 22 patients who had their surgery performed in GUH between 2020 & 2023 by surgeons from Crumlin.

The recent audit reported that children who had surgery in CHI at Crumlin were found to have been appropriately selected for surgery based on the current standards used by the auditor.



Appropriate follow-on communication and care will be provided to these children in line with best practice and recommendations from the audit.

I hope this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

**Ann Cosgrove,
Integrated Health Area Manager, Galway Roscommon,
HSE West and North West.**



Oifig na Bainisteoir Limistéir Chomhtháite
Cúraim Sláinte Chorcaí Thuaidh agus
Thoir.

FSS Iardheiscirt, Áras na Ceachan, Páirc
Ghnó agus Teicneolaíochta, Bóthar na Modh
Feirme, Corcaigh

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17th July 2025

Mr. Matt Carthy, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 34349/25

“To ask the Minister for Health in response to reports that CHI orthopaedic surgeons performed hip surgeries at University Hospital Galway and Cork in recent years, who approved sending CHI orthopaedic doctors to Galway and Cork; whether this was part of an official waiting-list initiative or NTPF arrangement; if the same oversight and patient-selection standards applied there as CHI sites; whether the orthopaedic doctors concerned were paid over the accepted rates; if so, the reason; and if she will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Carthy,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The HSE South West can confirm that no surgery was carried out in Cork involving CHI orthopaedic surgeons as part of any official waiting list initiative or NTPF arrangement. On the occasion where CHI surgeons did attend surgeries in the South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital they did so based on clinical need under the patient selection standards of SIVUH's own consultants.

Yours sincerely,

Sonya Cotter

Integrated Healthcare Area Manager, Cork North and East.

