



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach
Teil: 061 492068

E: nationaloralhealth@hse.ie

National Oral Health Office

Roselawn House, University Business Complex,
National Technology Park, Castletroy, Limerick
Tel: 061 492068

Email: nationaloralhealth@hse.ie

13 June 2025

Deputy Claire Kerrane
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 28761/25: To ask the Minister for Health the supports available to patients who, due to Crohn's disease, had dental implants in Turkey that, due to the passage of time, now require removal and replacement; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kerrane,

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

The HSE makes dental services available to adults with full eligibility through the Dental Treatment Services Scheme, which enables medical card holders to attend contracted dentists- the scheme has a list of treatment items which are funded through the scheme. The DTSS is a “choice of dentist” scheme for patients, which does not require the patient to register with a particular dentist and enables medical card holders to attend any DTSS contractor directly without recourse to the HSE. There are approximately 800 contracted dentists within the scheme. The items on the treatment schedule include fillings, extractions, and dentures: it does not include crown and bridge work or implants. State support is provided for these items by means of Med 2 Form (tax rebate scheme).

The National Oral Health Policy includes Action 14 - to develop clinical care pathways for the provision of complex care for eligible adults, which is one of the priority actions for the first phase of implementation. This, and Action 17 which will be progressed in a subsequent implementation phase (to develop requirements for designated advanced oral care centres) will create the structures to support provision of advanced dental care to eligible patients. However, there is no current clinical pathway for eligible patients to be provided with replacement advanced dental work (implants/crowns/bridges) which were privately funded in the first instance.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Anne O'Neill
Assistant National Director, Oral Health