



Ref: PQ 52562/25

23rd October 2025

Deputy Paul Murphy
Dáil Eireann
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy Murphy

I refer to your parliamentary question below.

PQ 52562/25 – To ask the Minister for Health if she has any concerns about Children's Health Ireland surgeons who may have performed unnecessary operations on children continuing to operate on them today; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Response:

For this response, it has been assumed that this PQ pertains to Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip (DDH) surgery, and the information provided reflects that understanding.

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) can advise that all patients who require DDH surgery are now discussed at a cross-hospital, pre-operative, multidisciplinary team meeting. There are also two international paediatric orthopaedic surgeons who attend these meetings to facilitate decision making to ensure it is within international standards. There was a low post-operative complication rate from surgery across all sites in the DDH audit.

The HSE external expert review panel, currently being commissioned, will assess the appropriateness of pelvic osteotomy procedures carried out in CHI at Temple Street and National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh between January 2010 and March 2025.

Yours sincerely

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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.

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