



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Seirbhís Aisíocaíochta Cúraim Phríomhúil
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Health Service Executive, Primary Care Reimbursement Service
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Peadar Tóibín, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

5th September 2025

PQ: 46423/25

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in the Republic of Ireland who have been granted a long-term illness card under the diagnosis of spina bifida, for each year from 1997 to the most recent year available, by year of birth, in tabular form; to clarify whether these figures include deceased persons; if not, if she will provide both sets of figures; and if she will make a statement on the matter.
-Peadar Tóibín

Dear Deputy Toibín,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 46423/25), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The number of persons dispensed to in any one year with Spina Bifida as their primary illness can be found on our website at [PCRS Publications - HSE.ie](https://www.hse.ie/eng/pcrs/publications). Access the Reporting section of the page [Access the Reporting and Open Data Area](#) . This will bring you to the PCRS Annual Reports.

Please note the figures in the annual report go back to 2019 for the breakdown by illness.

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Reimbursement Service

The Health Service Executive operates the General Medical Services Scheme, which includes Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards, under the Health Act 1970, as amended. It has established a dedicated contact service for members of the Oireachtas specifically for queries relating to the status of Medical Cards

and GP Visit Cards applications, which the Deputy / Senator may wish to use for an earlier response. Tel: 01-8647180 / email: Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie