



Cáilíocht Náisiúnta agus Sábháilteacht Othar

Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Cliniciúil

National Quality and Patient Safety

Office of the Chief Clinical Officer

22/09/2025

Mr Padraig Rice,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**PQ 46798/25: To ask the Minister for Health the reason no correspondence related to the external retrospective review of children who may have undergone unnecessary hip surgeries have been issued to families; if correspondence will be issued to families as a matter of urgency outlining the status of the review and the next steps; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Pádraig Rice**

Dear Mr Rice,

The HSE is actively progressing the External Expert Review and has engaged with patient and family advocates to co-develop the Terms of Reference and agree a communication pathway for the duration of the review.

The Review Commissioner will issue correspondence to all families involved in the review in the coming weeks, providing an update and outlining next steps. The EEP will review children's medical files including images. It does not involve a clinic appointment or physical examination of the child. The individual case reviews will commence no later than January 2026 and experts have advised that it will take at least twelve months for the EEP to review the volume of cases. This timeline reflects the complexity of the work and the need for a rigorous and comprehensive approach. The HSE is committed to supporting this process to ensure it proceeds efficiently and expeditiously.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Orla Healy

National Clinical Lead, Quality & Patient Safety

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