



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Cross Border Directive
and the
National Contact Point
The Irish Experience –
2014 to 2016





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The HSE operates a National
Contact Point for persons
entitled to public patient
healthcare in Ireland



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‘an area without internal frontiers in which the free movement of goods, persons, services and capital is ensured’

Towards a collaborative approach amongst NCPs, ERNs and patient organisations:
exploring benefits and challenges of a joint co-operation.

European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)



- EHIC is used to cover the cost of necessary care while travelling within the EU/EEA or Switzerland.
- Necessary care includes unforeseen healthcare resulting from illness or injury which occurs while abroad.
- Necessary care also includes care for chronic conditions (e.g. dialysis) or pregnancy while abroad which if not provided could restrict a persons right to free movement.
- The EHIC can be used for GP, pharmacy or public hospital costs.
- Invoices for the cost of care provided are issued between governments.



Treatment Abroad Scheme (TAS)

- Based on EU Regulation, the TAS is strictly public to public referral.
- Authorisation for treatment under TAS must be sought and granted prior to availing of the treatment otherwise the patient is liable for the cost.
- Referral by the treating consultant in Ireland to another EU/EEA country or Switzerland for a treatment which is not available in Ireland.
- Government to government payments.

Cross Border Healthcare



Patient Referral by GP or Consultant



Community Care Service Health Centre



EU/EEA



Acute Tertiary Hospital Service





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Waiting Lists in Ireland

82,005 people



Queries to the NCP in Ireland

QUESTIONS

ANSWERS

Queries (telephone, email, etc)

2015

2016

4,591

5,571



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Application forms for Prior Authorisation issued



2015	2016
661	1,014



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Reimbursements in Ireland 2015 and 2016

Activity	2015	2016
Reimbursements for Inpatient Care	63	237
Reimbursements for outpatient or day case care	218	1,066
Total	281	1,303



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Too good to be true





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Cultural Barrier





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Lack of Information





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Co-Operation





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The HSE Cross Border Directive National Contact Point

is a Gate Way and not a Gate Keeper and assists patient's coming to and going from Ireland who have chosen to have their planned treatment in line with the provisions of the Cross Border Directive.

The National Contact Point Office Contact Details:

Telephone: + 353 56 7784546

Facsimile: 056 7784549

Email: CrossBorderDirective@hse.ie

Webpage: www.hse.ie/crossborderdirective



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Thank
You