

**From: Gearóid Cassidy, Director Primary Care
Tomas Adell, Director Elective Care and Cancer Policy**



To: HSC Trust Chief Executives
GP practices

Castle Buildings
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Email:
Date: 2 December 2022

Dear

**DEPARTMENTAL POLICY REGARDING PATIENTS ACCESSING PRIVATE
HEALTHCARE OUTSIDE OF NORTHERN IRELAND**

The purpose of this letter is to set out extant Departmental policy in relation to individuals availing of private health care outside of Northern Ireland.

Where an individual avails of health care on a private capacity, it will be important for the individual to ensure that all pre and post treatment costs are included in the overall package of care procured from the private healthcare provider. In any such instances, an individual will not be entitled to related pre or post treatment support from primary or secondary care services in Northern Ireland. In line with normal practice, patients will continue to be able to access emergency care where necessary.

It is therefore recommended that where a healthcare professional is made aware of an individual's plans to procure private healthcare outside of Northern Ireland, individuals are made aware of this policy and encouraged to ensure full pre and post treatment costs are included in the overall package.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely



Gearóid Cassidy



Tomas Adell