

Cyflwynwyd yr ymateb i ymgynghoriad y [Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol](#) ar [Effaith yr ôl-groniad o ran amseroedd aros ar bobl yng Nghymru sy'n aros am ddiagnosis neu driniaeth](#)

This response was submitted to the [Health and Social Care Committee](#) consultation on the [impact of the waiting times backlog on people in Wales who are waiting for diagnosis or treatment](#)

WT 05

Ymateb gan: | Response from: Unigolyn | An Individual

Dear Committee

I would like to put my views across concerning the above consultation.

Now that the Directive Route for funding for healthcare abroad has ended there is only one route available to Welsh patients and that is the S2 Route.

I have had great difficulty in getting hold of the form to apply for this funding for my husband and have only been able to get hold of the one for patients of England.

Can it be considered that the funding applies to private care abroad as well as state hospitals?

A hip replacement operation in a private hospital in the UK is approximately 14,000, on our NHS it is approximately £8,000.

In a private state of the art facility in Lithuania the cost is approximately £4,000. (Nordorthapedics).

Adding private care onto the form in my opinion would help reduce the waiting lists.

People who are willing to travel abroad for the operation would get seen quicker which would also reduce the waiting times for patients who do not or cannot travel abroad.

Obviously it would have to be beneficial to our state NHS so would have to have a maximum amount.

Another of the points you are considering is "Pain management support". My husband has deteriorated over the last few years and has had his pain meds doubled.

I know that he now has an opiate addiction. I am desperate for him to get the operation so that I can support him in getting off the opiates.

All of our savings have been spent over the last few years on purchasing an automatic car so that he is still able to drive, converting our bath to a walk in shower as he could no longer get in it and purchasing aids to help him about the house.

He is a 67 year old trained Mountain leader who loves the outdoors, he is now stuck indoors most of the time and has seen his quality of life deteriorate which has affected both of our mental health.

Please can you consider the above points?

Best Regards