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**For Written Answer on : 02/11/2021**  
**Question Number(s): 897 Question Reference(s): 52362/21**  
**Department: Health**  
**Asked by: Carol Nolan T.D.**

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### **QUESTION**

To ask the Minister for Health the number of adverse events reported to and or dealt with by the State Claims Agency since 1 January 2019 related to the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### **REPLY**

The Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 was signed into law on 20 December 2018 and commenced on 1 January 2019.

The Act permits termination to be carried out in cases where there is a risk to the life, or of serious harm to the health, of the pregnant woman; where there is a condition present which is likely to lead to the death of the foetus either before or within 28 days of birth; and without restriction up to 12 weeks of pregnancy.

Expanded services for termination of pregnancy commenced on 1 January 2019 and are provided through participating General Practitioners and hospitals throughout the country.

Section 20 of the Act provides for a notification system in relation to all terminations of pregnancy carried out under the legislation, and requires the Minister to publish an annual report on the notifications received in a given year. Two such Annual Reports have been published to date. The Annual Report 2019 indicated that a total of 6,666 notifications of terminations of pregnancy were received that year, while the Annual Report 2020 showed that in total 6577 medical procedures were carried out under the Act in 2020.

The State Claims Agency hosts the National Incident Management System (NIMS) which is the principal source of national data on incident activity for the Irish public health service. Under the National Treasury Management Agency (Amendment) Act 2000 State authorities are obliged to report adverse incidents promptly to the State Claims Agency (SCA). This allows the SCA, in conjunction with State authorities, to identify and analyse developing trends and patterns and to work with the State authorities concerned to develop and implement risk mitigation strategies. It is also important in the investigation of any subsequent claim.