Question for written answer E-000451/2019 to the Commission Rule 130 Seán Kelly (PPE)

Subject: Cross-border discrimination in public healthcare

Directive 2011/24/EU on patients' rights in cross-border healthcare sets out the conditions under which a patient may travel to another EU country to receive medical care and reimbursement.

EU citizens with European health insurance are entitled to the same access to public health care as natives in any EU country.

Article 4(3) of the Directive states that 'the principle of non-discrimination with regard to nationality shall be applied to patients from other Member States'.

Can the Commission clarify whether there are any circumstances in which a native should be prioritised over a visiting EU citizen regarding access to treatment? If not, can it clarify whether limiting a visiting EU citizen's access to healthcare is discriminatory?

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