



Oifig Stiúrthóir na Seirbhíse Náisiúnta Otharcharranna,
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Otharcharranna,
Áras na hAbhann,
Crosbhóthar Thamhlachta,
Tamlacht,
Baile Áth Cliath D24 XNP2.
Fón 01 4631608.
Riomhphost: pauline.mcdonagh@hse.ie

Office of the Director of the National Ambulance Service,
National Ambulance Service,
Rivers Building,
Tallaght Cross,
Tallaght,
Dublin D24 XNP2.
Telephone: 01 4631608.
Email: pauline.mcdonagh@hse.ie

2nd December 2019.

Mr. Brendan Smith TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

Re: Oral PQ 48867/19: To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the significant deterioration in ambulance turnaround times in Cavan Hospital between September 2017 and September 2019

Dear Deputy Smith,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

'The Ambulance Turnaround Framework' was approved for implementation by the National Ambulance Service (NAS) on the 20th May 2014 following consultation with the HSE. To manage the effective deployment of ambulance resources, the National Ambulance Service developed an 'Implementation of the Ambulance Turnaround Guidelines by the National Ambulance Service'. It recognises the paramount importance for there to be escalation of issues at the earliest possible moment in order to provide mitigating actions for any delays, maintaining effective resource cover and availability across Ireland.

Under times of high activity and prolonged pressure, the effective management of timely ambulance turnaround times is a challenge. Ambulance resources are a finite resource and are not scalable – meaning that any resources delayed at receiving units immediately reduces the ability to respond effectively to patients accessing emergency care in the community. In addition to 'The Ambulance Turnaround Framework', the continuing engagement of all parties and stakeholders is required to ensure satisfactory turnaround times are achieved.

Please find attached below the monthly statistics for Cavan General Hospital for the periods of September 2017, 2018 and 2019.



CAVAN GENERAL HOSPITAL		September	2017
Total AS1 & AS2 Ambulance Calls to Hospitals, Time calculated from arrival at Hospital until Clear	%	Total No of Calls	Average Time at Hospital
Cleared at Hospital in 20 Minutes or Less	38.1%	186	[0]:30:01
Cleared at Hospital in 30 Minutes or Less	60.5%	295	
Cleared at Hospital in 60 Minutes or Less	91.8%	448	
Cleared at Hospital 1 to 2 hours	7.8%	38	
Cleared at Hospital 2 to 3 hours	0.2%	1	
Cleared at Hospital 3 to 4 hours	0.2%	1	
Cleared at Hospital 4 to 5 hours			
Cleared at Hospital 5 to 6 hours			
Cleared at Hospital 6 to 7 hours			
At Hospital 7 - 14hours			
HOSP	100%	488	Total Time at Hospital 244:6

RCSI Hospitals Group - Dublin North East September 2018

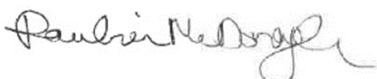
CAVAN GENERAL HOSPITAL		September	2018
Total AS1 & AS2 Ambulance Calls to Hospitals, Time calculated from arrival at Hospital until Clear	%	Total No of Calls	Average Time at Hospital
Cleared at Hospital in 20 Minutes or Less	28.0%	142	[0]:32:49
Cleared at Hospital in 30 Minutes or Less	52.7%	267	
Cleared at Hospital in 60 Minutes or Less	89.2%	452	
Cleared at Hospital 1 to 2 hours	10.7%	54	
Cleared at Hospital 2 to 3 hours	0.2%	1	
Cleared at Hospital 3 to 4 hours			
Cleared at Hospital 4 to 5 hours			
Cleared at Hospital 5 to 6 hours			
Cleared at Hospital 6 to 7 hours			
At Hospital 7 - 14hours			
HOSP	100%	507	Total Time at Hospital 277:20

RCSI Hospitals Group - Dublin North East September 2019

CAVAN GENERAL HOSPITAL		September	2019
Total AS1 & AS2 Ambulance Calls to Hospitals, Time calculated from arrival at Hospital until Clear	%	Total No of Calls	Average Time at Hospital
Cleared at Hospital in 20 Minutes or Less	15.9%	92	[0]:39:02
Cleared at Hospital in 30 Minutes or Less	40.4%	234	
Cleared at Hospital in 60 Minutes or Less	85.0%	492	
Cleared at Hospital 1 to 2 hours	14.5%	84	
Cleared at Hospital 2 to 3 hours	0.3%	2	
Cleared at Hospital 3 to 4 hours	0.2%	1	
Cleared at Hospital 4 to 5 hours			
Cleared at Hospital 5 to 6 hours			
Cleared at Hospital 6 to 7 hours			
At Hospital 7 - 14hours			
HOSP	100%	579	Total Time at Hospital 376:42

I trust this information is of assistance to you and should you require additional information or clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Pauline McDonagh – Senior Executive Officer.