



Oifig Leas – Stiúrthóir,  
Seirbhís Náisiúnta Otharchairr

Áras na hAbhann, Crosbhóthar Thamhlachta,  
Tamhlacht, Baile Áth Cliath D24 XNP2

Office of the Deputy Director  
National Ambulance Service

Rivers Building, Tallaght Cross,  
Tallaght, Dublin, D24 XNP2

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[@hselive](mailto:@hselive)

t 01 4631624/6  
e [deputydirecr.nas@hse.ie](mailto:deputydirecr.nas@hse.ie)

Ref: PQ24537/22.

31<sup>st</sup> May 2022.

Mr. Peadar Tóibín TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

**Re: PQ24537/22.**

**To ask the Minister for Health if ambulances are bringing patients to the accident and emergency department of Navan Hospital; if ambulances are being diverted to other hospitals for any reason; and if patients are being picked up in County Meath who could be treated in Navan but are being brought elsewhere.**

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) National Ambulance Service (NAS) 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 a response.

In the event of a person(s) having a medical emergency and or an acute clinical episode, requiring an Ambulance Service response/onward transfer to an Emergency Department, the normal practice of the National Ambulance Service is to travel to the nearest available Emergency Department.

However, there are exceptions to the above based on ensuring that the patient receives the appropriate care based on their clinical needs. Therefore, the National Ambulance Service evokes the following policies:

- Appropriate Hospital Access for Trauma Patients
- Appropriate Hospital Access for Suspected Acute Stoke Patients
- Appropriate Hospital Access for Obstetric Patient Procedures
- Appropriate Hospital Access for Paediatric Patient Procedures
- Appropriate Hospital access for ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction Patient Procedures

The above exceptions would be relevant to Navan Hospital.

I hope that this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

William Merriman,  
Deputy Director,  
National Ambulance Service.