



Oifig anStiúrthóir
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta,

Foirgneamh Aibhneacha, Crosbhóthar
Thamhlachta, Tamhlacht,
Baile Átha Cliath D24 XNP2

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10 March 2025

Deputy Matt Carthy
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ25/7235

**846. To ask the Minister for Health the circumstances in which ambulances are permitted to take patients to the minor injuries unit (MIU) at Monaghan Hospital, rather than an emergency department in another hospital; whether there has been any change to the criteria applied in these instances; whether new or additional changes to this criteria are planned; the number of times that an ambulance brought patients to the MIU at Monaghan Hospital, in each month in 2024, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Matt Carthy. [7235/25]*

Dear Deputy Carthy,

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 response.

The NAS Clinical Directorate, in conjunction with the HSE' Acute Medicine Programme (AMP), developed and trialled a referral pathway for NAS Paramedics to Medical Assessment Units (MAU) in Ireland. The trial has been successful, it has been clinically safe and provided a positive experience for patients, and has been welcomed by staff.

The NAS Clinical Directorate, is now working with the HSE' Emergency Medicine Programme (EMP), to develop and trial a referral pathway for NAS Paramedics to Local Injury Units (LIU) in Ireland.

Two LIUs are currently participating in the development of a trial and it remains to be seen if this trial can be successful, particularly in terms of clinical safety for patients. As this trial is in infancy, we have no further information to provide currently.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours Sincerely

Robert Morton
Director
National Ambulance Service

