



**Oifig an Stiúrthóra
Oibríochtaí An tSeirbhís
Náisiúnta**
Bloc 4, Lárionad
Gnó, Tulach
Mhór,
Co. Uíbh Fhailí, R35
FH59

**Office of the Director of
Planning and
Infrastructure**
Block 4, Central
Business Park,
Tullamore ,
Co. Offaly R35 FH59

[www.hse
.ie](http://www.hse.ie)
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)
t 057 9357693

Ref: VC/PQ9583/25

19 March 2025

Deputy Paul Donnelly TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ: 9583/25

To ask the Minister for Health the number of 24-7 HSE critical care ambulances, by location, in each of the years of 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. -Paul Donnelly

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

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 response.

The National Ambulance Service – Critical Care & Retrieval Services (NASCCRS) is a service within the NAS. The NASCCRS operates three specialist critical care retrieval services across the three patient cohort groups:

- National Neonatal Transport Programme (NNTP) 0 to 4 weeks corrected gestational age
- Irish Paediatric Acute Transport Service (IPATS) 4 weeks corrected gestational age to 16 years.
- Mobile Intensive Care Ambulance Service (MICAS) 16 years and above.

The three respective services are at different stages, and are evolving to ensure the service is providing the best evidence based practice to the patient cohort groups it serves.

Currently the only service functioning 24/7 is the NNTP who provides a daytime service from 8am to 8pm and a night-time service from 8pm to 8am.

There are bespoke **twelve** (12) critical care ambulances (CCA) with locations aligned to tertiary centres capable of supporting retrieval requirements. 10 vehicles are based in Dublin, 1 in Cork and 1 in Galway with all resources available to all three services for the transfer of critically ill patients. Each has the capability to transfer twins for the neonatal service as required.

Service/Year 2023	Service Based out of:	Day time hours	Night time hours
NNTP	Dublin	8am to 8pm 7/7/ 365	8pm to 8am 7/7/365
IPATS	Dublin	8am to 8pm 7/7/ 365	None
MICAS	Dublin Cork Galway	8am to 8pm 7/7 365 8am to 8pm 5/7 8am to 8pm 5/7	None None None

Service/Year 2024	Service Based out of:	Day time hours	Night time hours 7/7
NNTP	Dublin	8am to 8pm 7/7/ 365	8pm to 8am 7/7/365
IPATS	Dublin	8am to 8pm 7/7/ 365	None
MICAS	Dublin Cork Galway	8am to 8pm 7/7 365 8am to 8pm 5/7 8am to 8pm 5/7	None None None
Service/ Year (end February 2025)	Service Based out of:	Day time hours	Night time hours 7/7
NNTP	Dublin	8am to 8pm 7/7/ 365	8pm to 8am 7/7/ 365 days yr.
IPATS	Dublin	8am to 8pm 7/7/ 365	None
MICAS	Dublin Cork Galway	8am to 8pm 7/7/ 365 8am to 8pm 5/7 8am to 8pm 5/7	None None None

I trust you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

Vincent Cronly
Director of Planning and Infrastructure National Ambulance Service

