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WM/ PQ44861/25

22nd September 2025

Deputy David Cullinane TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 44861/25

To ask the Minister for Health her views on the inclusion of doctors in the prehospital crewing model of the Helicopter Emergency Medical Services in Ireland; if there have been any studies or pilots conducted to examine the matter, or if any are ongoing; the details of such studies or pilots, including methodology and parameters; and if she will make a statement on the matter. - David Cullinane

Dear Deputy Cullinane

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 National Ambulance Service (NAS) is currently reviewing the model of care for both the NAS Helicopter Emergency Medical Service and the NAS Critical Care Retrieval Service. All clinical aspects of both are being reviewed, including clinical crewing models, which encompasses paramedics, doctors and nurses across the spectrum of prehospital emergency care and critical care retrieval. A feasibility study on physician crewing of HEMS makes up one part of these reviews.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

William Merriman
Director of Operations
National Ambulance Service

