

A yellow and green Irish paramedic ambulance is shown at night with its emergency lights flashing. The ambulance has 'PARAMEDIC UNIT' and 'Naisiúnta Otharchairr' written on its side. The background is dark, and the scene is illuminated by the ambulance's lights.

Prehospital Treatment of Acute Stroke in Ireland

Shane Devlin

Advanced Paramedic

National Ambulance Service



**5.38 million
people**





>65

**↑40% in 10 years
(569,000-806,000)**

**1.6 million
by 2051**

IRISH NATIONAL AUDIT OF STROKE

NATIONAL REPORT 2022

**7.1% increase
in stroke**

Mean age of
70 years



About the National Ambulance Service (NAS)





40,000 transfers



800 HEMS
Missions

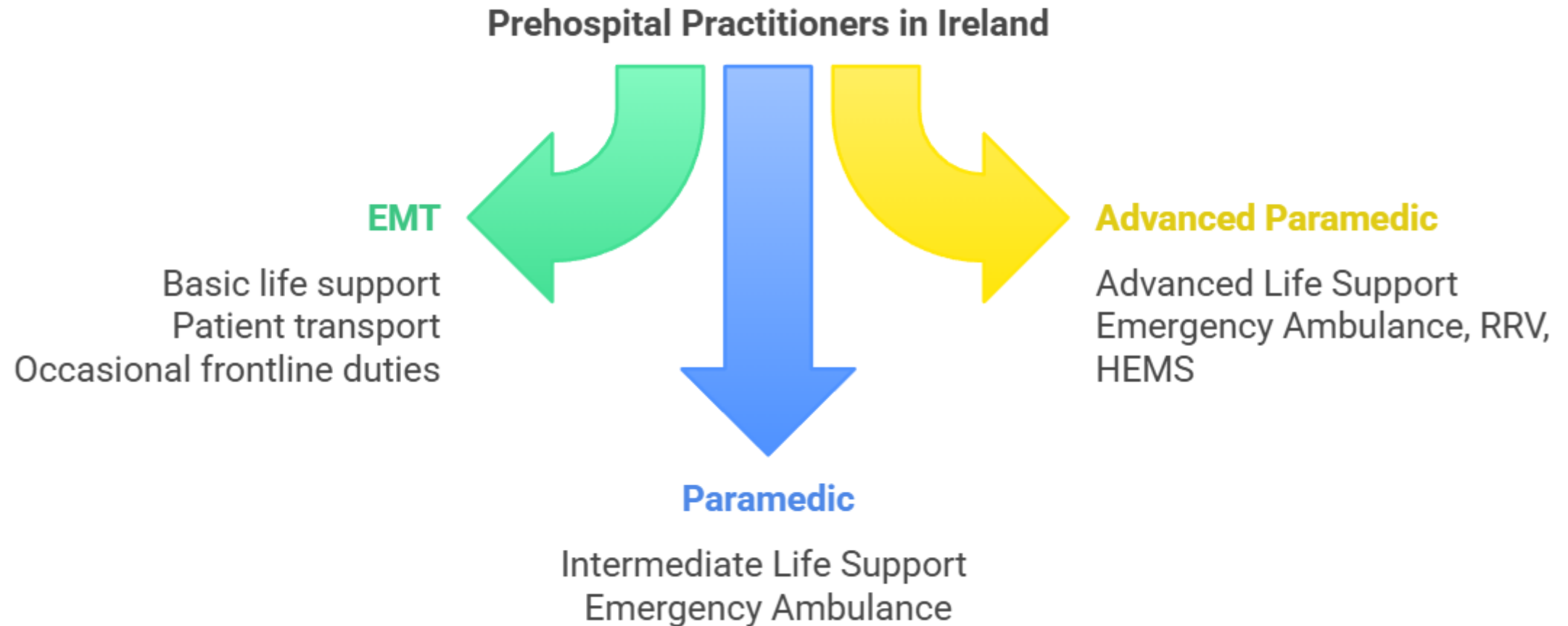


600
Paediatric/neonatal
transfers

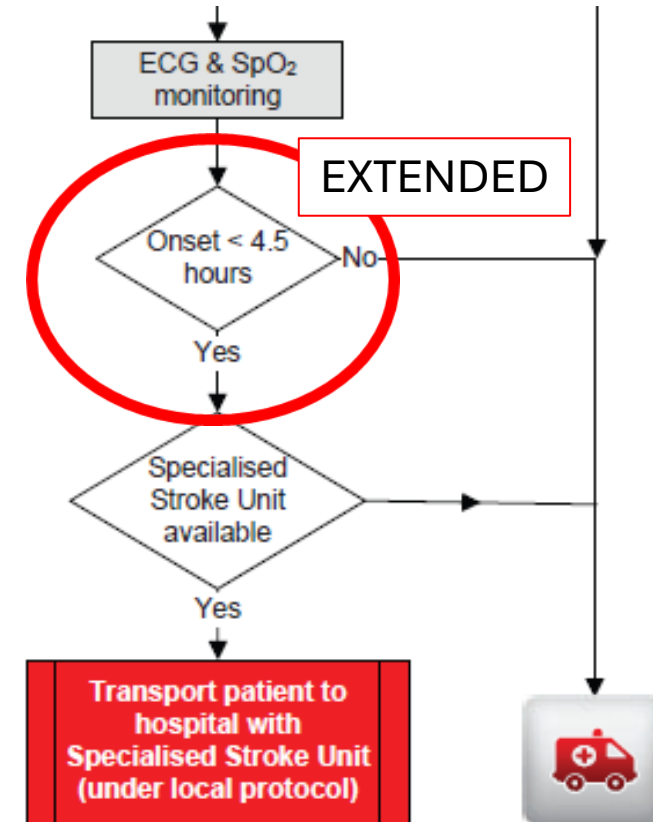
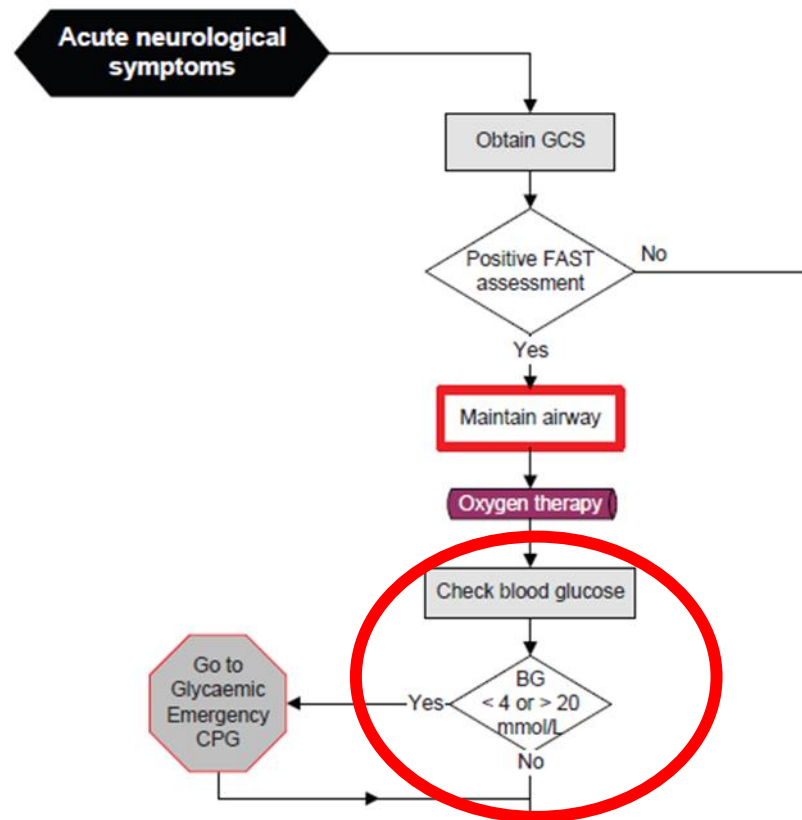


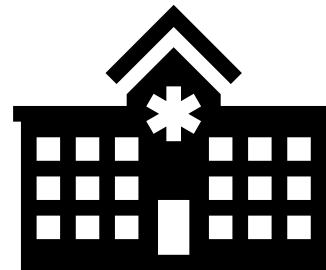
>300 CFR
Schemes

Prehospital Scope of Practice



Current Stroke CPG





Local
Hospital



Stroke Centre
(Thrombolysis)

Thrombectomy in Ireland



PIT STOP

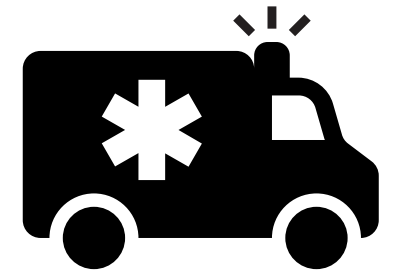
Protocol for Improving Times for **ST**roke patients requiring **O**nward transfer from **P**rimary stroke centre to thrombectomy centre



- >16
- FAST Positive
- <24 hours

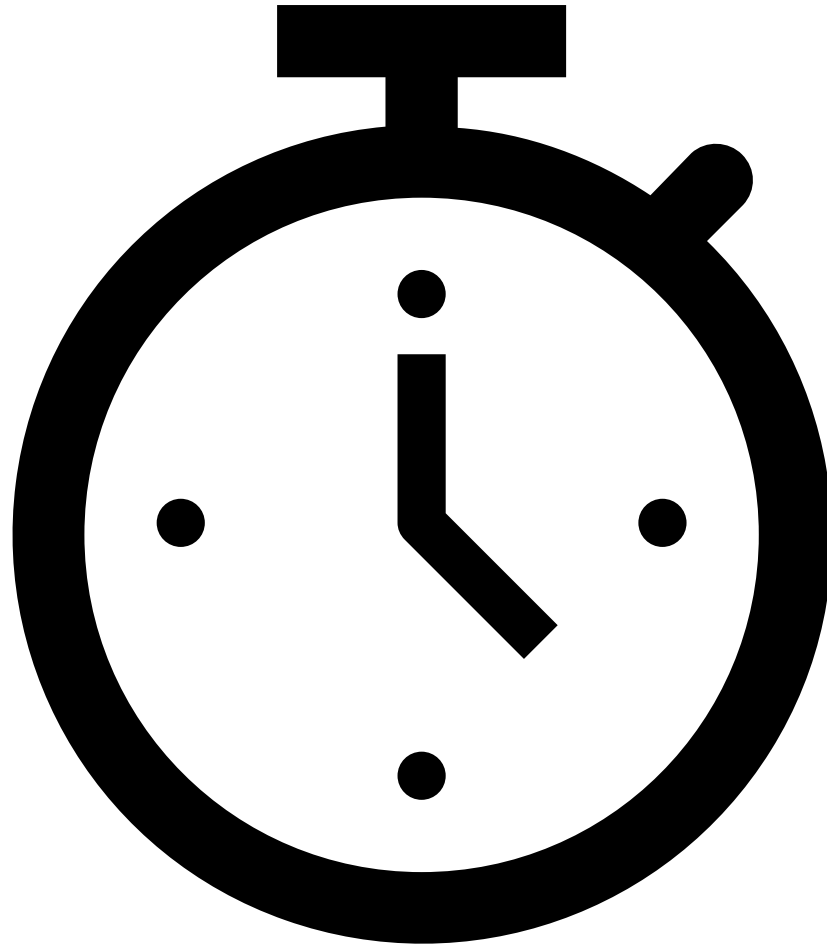


- Name
- Address
- DOB
- NOK



→ Thrombectomy Centre

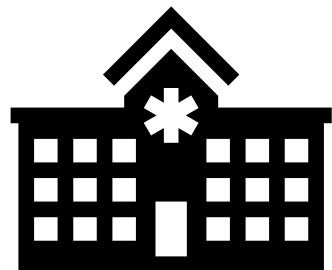
Reduction in thrombectomy times:



1 hour



Local
Hospital



Stroke Centre
(Thrombolysis)



Thrombectomy
Centre





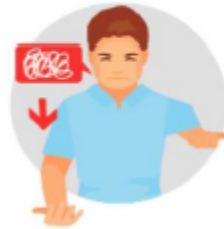
**BEAUMONT
HOSPITAL**

Large Vessel Occlusion Project

Dublin South Central, Swords and Finglas Stations

All FAST+ Patients in Beaumont Catchment Area

Complete ACT (**A**rm, **C**hat, **T**ap) Assessment



ARM

Assess for one side arm weakness



If Positive for RIGHT arm weakness

If Positive for LEFT arm weakness

CHAT

Severe language deficit

Assess patient from overall interaction and your routine assessment. You may ask the patient to repeat a phrase (e.g. "you can't teach an old dog new tricks") OR to perform simple tasks (e.g. making a fist, opening mouth)

TAP

Gaze and Shoulder tap test

Stand on patient's weak side and observe if the patient has consistent and obvious gaze preference (both eyes) away from the side of weakness OR If no gaze preference is present or it is difficult to assess, stand on patient's weak side and tap twice on the shoulder of their weak side while calling the patient's name

If Positive

Pass ASHICE via NEOC to Beaumont ED

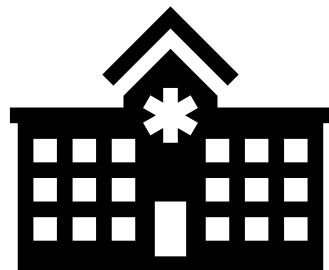


Follow up with phone call to Stroke Registrar via
STEMI Line

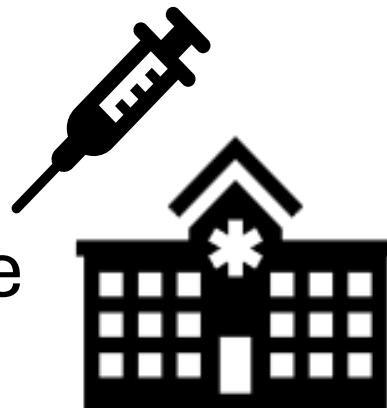
LVO Stroke



Local
Hospital



Local Stroke Centre
(Thrombolysis)



Thrombectomy
Centre



The Future?

- Quality Improvement Project in CUH streamlining hospital and prehospital processes
- Further rollout of ACTFAST for LVO bypass
- Research on developing prehospital posterior stroke guidelines



Thank you!

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