



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

**Health Service Executive
Southern Area
Ambulance Service
Standard Operating
Procedure/Guideline**



1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To ensure that all Emergency Medical Controllers are aware of the procedures to be used on receiving an ambulance call to transport a patient (deep sea diver) to Cork University Hospital and possible transfer to and from the Hyperbaric Chamber at the Naval Base in Haulbowline.

2.0 RESPONSIBILITY

2.1 The responsibility for ensuring compliance with this S.O.P. at a functional level lies with each respective E.M.C.

2.2 The responsibility for ensuring compliance with this S.O.P. by each E.M.C lies with the Control & Communications Officer.

3.0 PROCEDURE/GUIDELINE

3.1 On receiving a call:

1. Log the call as an AS1 and flag it for the Control & Communications Officer as per CAD. If control receives the initial call, take details as above and transfer the call to MEDICO Cork.
(please note that the number for MEDICO Cork 021-4546453 is NOT to be given out to anybody regardless of who they may be).
2. Medico will ring back ambulance control via 112/999 service to advise on activation of Coast Guard. If not contacted by Medico Control will ring back Medico.
3. To contact Coast Guard ring:
Valentia – 066-9476-109 (Incidents between Kerry & Galway).
Dublin – 01-6620-922 (Incidents between Cork & Louth).
Malin Head – 074-9370-103 (Incidents between Mayo & Donegal).
4. Coast Guard will liaise with Ambulance Control to arrange time and rendezvous for ambulance pick up.

5. Advise Naval Base (Senior Duty Officer) to put the Hyperbaric Chamber on standby as early as possible (one hour minimum notice is required).

Contact Telephone Numbers, ring in the order below and only use the follow on numbers if no reply from the initial number.

1st –021-4864-707, Naval Operations.

2nd –021-4864-812, Naval Operations.

3rd –021-4867-111, Senior Duty Officer.

4th –087-2053-570, Senior Duty Officer.

6. Keep Medico and Cork University Hospital Emergency Department updated.
7. If transfer is required to and from the Naval Base log the call as an AS3 call (outpatient) filling in all the fields on the call sheet and flag the call for the Control & Communications Officer as per CAD.
8. All actions, contact names and contact times for the duration of the call to be entered in notepad of call.

4.0 REQUIREMENTS OF AMBULANCE SERVICE

- 4.1 Ambulance at rendezvous point (advised by Coast Guard) to transport patient to Cork University Hospital Emergency Department. A medical team maybe required to travel with the ambulance crew (MEDICO to advise).
- 4.2 Ambulance to transport patient from Emergency Department to Naval base for treatment (AS3 outpatient).
- 4.3 Ambulance to transport patient from Naval Base to Emergency Department Cork University Hospital.
- 4.4 If a Medical Officer is required to travel to Naval Base other than with the patient (during office hours Monday to Friday) then an Ambulance Officer or L/E.M.T. (office duties) will transport in Ambulance Service Jeep or R.R.V. If no ambulance transport is available, Refer to paragraph 4.5.
- 4.5 If a Medical Officer is required to travel to Naval Base other than with the patient(out of office hours Monday to Friday, Weekends and Bank Holidays)then Ambulance Control will make arrangements with C.U.H. Security Department to transport in Security Jeep **(only to be driven under normal driving regulations, no lights and sirens).**

- 4.6** In the event of a patient been seen in an Emergency Department of another hospital, then Medico would direct the helicopter to the Naval Base. The Coast Guard will then contact Ambulance Control and advise of ETA and landing site. An ambulance will be sent to the landing site to transport the patient to the Hyperbaric Chamber.
- 4.7** Ambulance Control will advise Naval Base of the above.
- 4.8** Ambulance Control will activate and stand down Naval Base Hyperbaric Chamber.
- 4.9** In the event of a patient having to be transferred abroad for recompression Ambulance Control will make all arrangements as per SLA. refer to Air Ambulance Operations Manual. Flag the call for the Control & Communications Officer as per CAD.

5.0 MEDICAL EMERGENCY AT NAVAL BASE

- 5.1** In the event of a medical emergency at the Hyperbaric Chamber Ambulance Control will be receive a call via the 112/999 service.
- 5.2** Activate ambulance as per AS1. Flag the call for the Control & Communications Officer as per CAD.

6.0 FREQUENCY OF REVIEW

This S.O.P will remain under constant review and may be subject to change to facilitate any changes/developments in service requirements. This may also be changed subject to Chief Emergency Management Officer, E.M.C's, Medico Cork, Coast Guard or Naval Service making further meaningful contributions. Any changes to this SOP will be done following discussions with the Chief Ambulance Officer and ambulance staff.

Signed: 
Mr Pat McCreanor
Chief Ambulance Officer

Signed: 
Mr Roy Cuthbert
Control & Communications Officer