

# Medevac Flying: The Irish Air Corps HEMS Mission

The Irish Air Corps has been providing Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) since 1998. The service is operated by a dedicated team of pilots, paramedics, and doctors who are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The HEMS team is based at Casement Aerodrome in Baldonnel, County Dublin. They operate a fleet of three AgustaWestland AW139 helicopters, which are equipped with state-of-the-art medical equipment.



## Medevac: Flying the Irish Air Corps HEMS Mission

by Declan Daly

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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The HEMS team provides a vital service to the people of Ireland. They are called out to a variety of incidents, including road traffic accidents, falls, and medical emergencies.

## How the HEMS Mission Works

When the HEMS team is called out to an incident, they are dispatched by the National Ambulance Service. The team will then fly to the scene of the incident and land as close to the patient as possible.

The team will then assess the patient and provide them with the appropriate medical treatment. If necessary, the patient will be airlifted to the nearest hospital.

## **The Benefits of HEMS**

HEMS provides a number of benefits to the people of Ireland, including:

- Faster response times to emergencies
- Improved access to specialist medical care
- Reduced mortality and morbidity rates
- Increased public confidence in the health service

## **The HEMS Team**

The HEMS team is made up of a dedicated group of professionals who are committed to providing the best possible care to their patients.

The team includes:

- Pilots
- Paramedics
- Doctors

The pilots are responsible for flying the helicopter and ensuring the safety of the team and the patient.

The paramedics are responsible for providing medical care to the patient. They are trained to deal with a wide range of medical emergencies.

The doctors are responsible for diagnosing and treating the patient. They are also responsible for making decisions about the patient's care.

## **The HEMS Helicopter**

The HEMS helicopter is a state-of-the-art aircraft that is equipped with the latest medical equipment.

The helicopter has a spacious cabin that can accommodate up to four patients. The cabin is also equipped with a stretcher, a ventilator, and a defibrillator.

The helicopter is also equipped with a night vision system that allows the team to fly at night.

## **The HEMS Mission in Action**

The HEMS team is called out to a variety of incidents every year. Here are a few examples of how the team has helped to save lives:

- In 2019, the HEMS team was called out to a road traffic accident in County Cork. The patient, a young woman, had been seriously injured in the accident and was in need of urgent medical attention.
- In 2020, the HEMS team was called out to a fall on a mountain in County Kerry. The patient, a hiker, had fallen and sustained a serious

head injury.

- In 2021, the HEMS team was called out to a medical emergency in County Galway. The patient, a young child, was suffering from a life-threatening illness.

In each of these cases, the HEMS team was able to reach the patient quickly and provide them with the medical care they needed. The team's work has helped to save countless lives and improve the quality of life for many others.

The Irish Air Corps HEMS mission is a vital service to the people of Ireland. The team provides fast, efficient, and life-saving medical care to those who are in need.

The team of pilots, paramedics, and doctors are highly trained and experienced professionals who are dedicated to providing the best possible care to their patients.

The HEMS helicopter is a state-of-the-art aircraft that is equipped with the latest medical equipment.

The HEMS mission is a success story. The team has saved countless lives and improved the quality of life for many others.

## **Image Gallery**



An Irish Air Corps helicopter taking part in night medevac training with the HSE



A Garda Air Support Unit helicopter



A Rescue 115 S-92A Coast Guard helicopter over Rosslare Harbour, Co. Wexford



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