

Interfacility Transport

1. Communication Essentials

Receiving Institution

- Communication completed by the **referring MD**

Patient and Family

- Patient and family are informed **collaboratively by the MD and RN**

Primary Nurse Communication with Transport Team

The primary nurse must communicate the following:

- Patient name, DOB, age, and weight
 - Diagnosis
 - Referring MD
 - Airway/ Neurological status
 - Most recent vital signs
 - IV access (number, location, and active drips)
 - Specialized equipment required during transport
 - Isolation considerations
 - Code status
 - Allergies
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2. Safety Considerations

General Safety

- Report **current weather conditions** to the transport team
- “3 to go, 1 to say no” for flight transport
- No details of patient is provided to flight team prior to arrival

Helicopter Transport Safety

- Stay clear of the **tail rotor** at all times
 - Approach the helicopter **only when directed** by flight crew
 - Ensure any open doors are secured with a **safety strap**
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3. Nursing Assessments Prior to Transport

Ensure patient stability before transfer:

- Airway stabilized
 - Oxygen therapy in place
 - Working ambu bag available/ Functional suction set up
 - **Two large-bore IVs** established (if clinically appropriate)
 - Foley catheter secured (if present)
 - Cardiac monitor applied
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4. Nursing Responsibilities

- Verify **EMTALA documentation** is completed by the provider
 - Confirm consent to transfer is obtained and documented
 - Ensure all patient belongings and medical records accompany the patient
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