

Guideline for intra-hospital transfer by Advanced Critical Care Practitioners within NHS Lothian



Intra-hospital transfer of a level 3 critical care patient should only be undertaken by an Advanced Critical Care Practitioner (ACCP) within NHS Lothian when the following criteria are met:

- The decision for transfer is made by a **senior doctor** (Consultant, advanced trainee in Intensive Care Medicine, post-fellowship Anaesthetic trainee).
- There is an agreement from a senior doctor that the patient is suitable for transfer by an ACCP.
- There is an agreement from the ACCP that the patient is suitable for them to transfer.
- The ACCP has completed in-house training including supervised practice and has been signed off as having met basic competencies in intra-hospital transfer, and airway management.
- **The patient should be physiologically stable.**
- **The transfer should take place 'in hours' 0800-2030.**

Intra-hospital transfer by an ACCP is **not** appropriate in the following circumstances:

- The presence of **severe cardiovascular instability** (eg > 20 ml/hour single strength noradrenaline).
- **High oxygen requirement** (eg $F_{iO_2} > 0.5$)
- Known or **anticipated difficult intubation**.
- Patients with **significant intracranial hypertension**.
- Any other **anticipated significant difficulty**.

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