

# **Transfer of Ventilated Patients Between PHC and VCH Sites: Agreement (Respiratory Therapy)**

## **Scope:**

- This agreement applies to ventilated patients being transported between sites for diagnostic purposes, where the patient will be returning to the originating hospital after completion of the test

## **Responsibilities Prior To & During Transport:**

### **Originating Facility RT Staff:**

1. Contact Respiratory Staff at the diagnostic facility (see Appendix A for contact information) as soon as possible to inform them of impending transport – be able to provide the following information:
  - Patient's name
  - Type of test being performed
  - Date and time of transport, with estimated time of arrival at diagnostic facility
  - Patient's airway and ventilation needs
2. Discuss/review resource needs with diagnostic facility to determine what can be provided there vs. what needs to be brought from originating facility. Resources may include:
  - Ventilator and accessories
  - Suction equipment and supplies
  - Respiratory Therapist relief\*\* (see below)
3. Gather equipment and supplies necessary for patient transport (according to hospital specific protocols and based on conversation with diagnostic facility over available resources).
4. Manage the airway and ventilation needs of the patient during transport to and from the diagnostic facility.
5. Remain with the patient until RT relief can be provided by the diagnostic facility\*\* (see below).

**Diagnostic Facility:**

1. Receive information from the originating facility RT staff.
2. Determine what resources can be provided for the patient while at the diagnostic facility and coordinate availability of said resources.
3. Provide safety orientation to RT from originating facility.
4. Assume responsibility for airway/ventilation needs for the patient during the diagnostic test if previously arranged with originating facility\*\* (see below).

**\*\*Management of Airway/Ventilation During Diagnostic Test:**

Prior to transport, Respiratory Therapy staff from each facility should engage in discussion around who will assume responsibility for the patient's airway and ventilation needs during the diagnostic test. There is no assumption that either the originating or the diagnostic facility will automatically take on this responsibility, but rather that this is determined after considering the following:

- Length of diagnostic procedure
- Distance between the originating and diagnostic facility
- Each facility's staffing complement and resource needs for the affected shift(s)

In all circumstances, the RT from the originating facility will not leave the patient until the RT from the diagnostic facility is available to assume care for the patient.

If it is determined that the RT from the originating facility will stay with the patient for the duration of the procedure, the RT from the diagnostic facility will provide a safety orientation which will include:

- Contact / pager information for local RT staff in case assistance is required
- Location of telephone(s), intercoms, and/or other communication devices
- Location of compressed gas and vacuum source outlets, as well as emergency gas and vacuum sources
- Location of code blue button, and/or procedure for calling a code blue
- Provision of any necessary personal protective equipment, such as gowns, gloves, masks, lead aprons, etc.

**APPENDIX A: RESPIRATORY THERAPY CONTACT INFORMATION**

<b>Hospital</b>	<b>First Contact</b>	<b>Secondary Contact</b>
Lion's Gate Hospital	RT Pager 604-331-9291	Scott/Dave 604-813-4123
Mount Saint Joseph Hospital	RT: pager 604-258-3599 (Or call 604-682-2344 & ask for pager 33599)	Contact Charge RT at SPH
Richmond Hospital	RT phone: 604-833-8099	ICU RT Phone: 778-980-0524
Vancouver General Hospital	Charge RT: 778-874-5795 Pager: 87-03354 Calling from outside hospital: 604-875-4200 * 03354	ER RT phone: 604-875-4111 ext. 68920 Pager: 87-03353 Calling from outside hospital: 604-875-4200 * 03353
St. Paul's Hospital	Charge RT: pager 604-252-4340 (Or call 604-682-2344 & ask for pager 34340)	ICU RT: pager 604-252-4009 (Or call 604-682-2344 & ask for pager 34009)