



OG029 Time Critical Paediatric Neurosurgical Transfers

1. Key Recommendations for operational use

For use by: ScotSTAR Internet: Yes

1	Telephone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">SAS Specialist Services Desk (SSD): 0333 399 0222.
2	Definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Children are defined as up to the age of 16 years.Time critical neurosurgical problems include any pathology that requires urgent neurosurgical intervention that cannot be performed at the referring unit and where transfer will have a greater impact on outcome than awaiting a specialist transfer team.Time-critical neurosurgical problems also include the clinical suspicion of pathology requiring urgent neurosurgical intervention but the referring centre does not have the means to perform a CT scan to confirm this.
3	Identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Possibility of paediatric time critical neurosurgical transfer is identified by referring centre.It is expected that a referring centre with access to a CT scanner will perform a CT head of the patient as a priority after appropriate resuscitation and stabilisation.Contact ScotSTAR via SAS SSD.
4	Role of SSD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">SSD receive call from referring centre with a potential time critical neurosurgical transfer.<ul style="list-style-type: none">or if the need for a time critical neurosurgical transfer is not recognised initially by the referring centre but becomes apparent during the call.SSD take initial details, and organise a conference call to include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Referring clinician.Paediatric retrieval team.PICU (if clinician unavailable, then include the PICU charge nurse).Neurosurgeon.Anaesthetist, if feasible (to facilitate urgent operating theatre preparations).In the rare circumstance that neither paediatric retrieval team clinician or PICU clinician are available to join the conference call, the participants should be:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Referring clinician.PICU charge nurse.Neurosurgeon.Anaesthetist.If the transfer is deemed to be time critical, the referring clinician would mobilise.The receiving unit team should notify ED and the PICU consultant as soon as feasible.



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5	Outcome of initial call	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree outcome for patient care:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Time critical transfer by referring unit.- Paediatric ScotSTAR retrieval agreed, proceed as usual.- Remain at referring unit• In remote and rural locations, the logistics of a time-critical transfer can be more challenging. Each case will be discussed and managed on a case-by-case basis• Agree location for handover of patient (ED, theatre, PICU).• Agree who will be present to receive the patient.
6	Role of Referring Unit once time critical transfer agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inform family of the need for a time critical transfer.• Allocate the medical and nursing staff for the transfer.• Guidance from ScotSTAR website is available and includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- ScotSTAR drug dose calculator.- Pre-departure checklist (appendix).- CG005 Head injury guideline.• Contact the ScotSTAR clinician via SSD if required for further clinical advice prior to, or during transfer.• Inform SSD of departure from referring unit.• Handover at pre-arranged location.
7	ScotSTAR/SSD role following decision for time critical transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SSD will organise an ambulance for the referring unit to transfer (Now response).• SSD or ScotSTAR will inform the referring centre of expected time of ambulance arrival.• ScotSTAR clinician will provide advice or support if available.• SSD or ScotSTAR will inform PICU, neurosurgeons and ED co-ordinator (if appropriate) of expected time of ambulance arrival.



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2. Document History			
Reference Number	OG029		
Version	1		
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Distribution	BASICS Scotland		X
	Medic 1		X
	Referring centres via service websites		✓
	Rural GPs Association of Scotland		X
	SAS	Air Ambulance	✓
		Specialist Services Desk	✓
	ScotSTAR	EMRS West	for information
		EMRS North	for information
		Paediatric	✓
		Neonatal	X
	Tayside Trauma Team		X





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3. Scope and purpose

- Overall objectives:

The aim of this guideline is to summarise the ScotSTAR Paediatric Retrieval team's remit and general operations when taking a referral and during a time critical neurosurgical transfer.

- Statement of intent:

This guideline is not intended to be construed or to serve as a standard of care. Adherence to guideline recommendations will not ensure a successful outcome in every case, nor should they be construed as including all proper methods of care or excluding other acceptable methods of care aimed at the same results. The ultimate judgement must be made by the appropriate healthcare professional(s) responsible for clinical decisions regarding a particular clinical procedure or treatment plan. Clinicians using this guideline should work within their skill sets and usual scope of practice.

- Feedback:

Comments on this guideline can be sent to: sas.cpg@nhs.scot

- Equality Impact Assessment:

Applied to the ScotSTAR Clinical Standards group processes.

- Guideline process endorsed by the Scottish Trauma Network Prehospital, Transfer and Retrieval group.





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Appendix 1: Pre departure checklist (ScotSTAR Paediatrics)

REFERRING UNIT PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST		
<p>PATIENT</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> IDENTIFICATION ID BAND ON / FULL LOG-DATASET</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> AIRWAY ET TUBE / TRACHE SIZE: LENGTH..... CUFF PRESSURE: LARYNGOSCOPE BLADE:..... GUEDEL SIZE:.....</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ET TUBE SECURE</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ET TUBE AND GASTRIC TUBE POSITION CHECKED ON XRAY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> INTUBATION DRUGS PRESENT</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MASK / SELF-INFLATION BAG AND GUEDEL PRESENT AND WITH PATIENT</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> CIRCULATION <u>Quantity</u> <u>Site</u> ARTERIAL ACCESS: CENTRAL LINE: PERIPHERAL LINE: I.O. ACCESS:</p> <p>SECURE</p> <p>FLUIDS/BLOOD FOR JOURNEY, BP/PERFUSION APPROPRIATE</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DRUGS WEIGHT:BM..... ADEQUATE DRUGS FOR JOURNEY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DRUGS PRESCRIBED + SIGNED</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MONITORING ADEQUATE AND FUNCTIONING</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> SP02 TONE ENABLED - corpuls</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> TEMPERATURE + GAS RECORDED</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> EYES TAPED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SBAR HANDOVER MEDICAL AND NURSING</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> EQUIPMENT/ DOCUMENTATION DRUG CARDEX COPIED PATIENT SECURE CABLES/TUBES SECURED</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ADEQUATE GASES FOR JOURNEY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> POWER SUPPLY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> BAGS I-STAT + KIT BAGS, DRUG BAGS + ANY OTHER BAGS USED.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DRIVER AWARE DISCUSS JOURNEY PLAN WITH DRIVER</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> PARENTS AWARE OF TRANSPORT AND UPDATED ON CONDITION.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> OFFERED OPPORTUNITY FOR 1 PARENT TO TRAVEL WITH TEAM</p> <p style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">YES / NO</p> <p>If no, reason:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RECEIVING UNIT AWARE <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES – NOTIFIED BY REFERRING ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> YES – NOTIFIED BY TRANSPORT TEAM</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MANAGEMENT DISCUSSED WITH RECEIVING CONSULTANT / TEAM <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ED PAUSE REQUIRED (FOR PATIENTS ACCEPTED AND ADMITTED TO WARD AFTER 5 PM MONDAY – FRIDAY OR ON WEEKENDS)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ED CO-ORDINATOR INFORMED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p>
<p>INITIALS OF CHECKERS ____ / ____</p>		