

Title: Patient Transfer – Urgent – Endovascular Therapy	
Manual:	Section:
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PURPOSE:

In support of our mission, the Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) is committed to:

- The delivery of quality patient care and a safe environment for both patients and staff during urgent inter-facility transport
- Ensuring efficient and appropriate access to ambulance transport in accordance with professional and hospital patient care standards

POLICY STATEMENT:

An ambulance (land or air) is the only mode of transport to be used for patients who are being transferred to a tertiary care centre for consideration for Endovascular Therapy (EVT).

DEFINITION (S):

N/A

PROCEDURE:

1. The decision to transport a patient to an alternate facility for EVT is made by the Provincial Telestroke Neurologist in consultation with the Receiving Facility and the BCHS Emergency Room Physician.
2. The determination of the appropriate receiving facility will be facilitated by the Provincial Telestroke Neurologist with Hamilton Health Sciences as the primary receiving facility for BCHS EVT transfers.
3. For cases where transfer to Hamilton Health Sciences is not possible, the Provincial Telestroke Neurologist in consultation with Critical Care will facilitate the transfer of the patient to an alternate facility for EVT.
4. For all EVT patient transfers, the Unit Clerk will obtain a patient and transfer specific MT number from the Provincial Transfer Authorization Centre (PTAC). NOTE: MT numbers expire after 24 hours.
5. Determine method of transport for transfer: Regional Ambulance Service or ORNGE/comparable Critical Care Transport Service.
6. **Transport by Regional Ambulance Service** – County of Brant Ambulance Service:
 - a. Obtain a physician order to transport via Regional Ambulance Service with appropriate accompaniment based on patient condition. At minimum, a Registered Nurse must accompany the patient to the receiving EVT facility. All other decisions about accompanying staff are decided by the care team based on patient acuity and condition.

- b. Unit Clerk to notify ambulance dispatch by telephone to arrange Priority 4 transport.
 - c. If tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) is infusing for the transfer, physician to complete Endovascular Transfer Order Set.
7. **Transport by ORNGE or comparable Critical Care Transport Service:**
- a. Obtain a physician order to access the transport service
 - b. Call ORNGE or the comparable Critical Care Transport Service directly to arrange for transport (Refer to the ORNGE Transport Manual to ensure the patient meets criteria for transport via this service).
8. **Unit Clerk** to complete the following:
- a. Fax ED face sheet with patient demographics to the receiving hospital's Emergency Department
 - b. Prepare the patient's chart for transfer
 - c. Photocopy all of the patient's chart for transfer
- NOTE:** Diagnostic Images on CD are not required for transfer. All images are sent via ENITS.
9. **Registered Nurse** accompanying the patient to complete the following:
- a. Ensure the pre-printed Adult Endovascular Therapy Transfer order set is completed by the sending physician
 - b. Prepare equipment for transfer, which may include but not limited to:
 - i. medication and supply kit
 - ii. ED Stroke Transfer CNS Kit
 - iii. IV pump
 - iv. transport cardiac monitor
 - v. supplemental oxygen supplies as needed
 - c. Using the Code Stroke Record and/or patient progress notes, document all care provided to the patient during transport until the receiving facility assumes responsibility. These progress notes are to return to BCHS to become a permanent part of the patient's chart. The transfer package remains at the receiving facility.
 - d. If tPA is infusing for the transfer, and complications requiring medication administration arise, follow the Adult Endovascular Therapy Transfer order set to guide decision making.
 - e. Upon arrival at the receiving hospital, proceed to the Emergency Department for triage and transfer of accountability.

RELATED PRACTICES AND / OR LEGISLATIONS:

BCHS Policy: Patient Transport – Urgent and Booked Ambulance Transfer N-IV-1520

REFERENCES:

1. Critical Care Departmental Manual Policy and Procedure N-ICU-III-4
2. BCHS Policy: Patient Transport – Urgent and Booked Ambulance Transfer N-IV-1520

APPENDICES: N/A