

INTER-FACILITY TRANSFER

ALWAYS USE BODY SUBSTANCE ISOLATION PRECAUTIONS

INDICATION

- Inter-facility transfer of patients from a Marin County Facility (includes physician's office with physician in attendance) for destinations within or outside Marin County

CRITICAL INFORMATION

- Transporting personnel will operate under the medical direction of the transferring physician in compliance with the County of Marin, State and Federal laws, through direct contact or standing orders, in a safe and timely manner.
- **Level I- BLS unit** (EMT- I, EMT-I staffing):
 - Patient is non-critical & deemed stable
 - EMT-I Scope of Practice
- **Level II- ALS unit** (EMT-I, EMT-P staffing; Respiratory Therapist if continuous respiratory assistance required):
 - EMT-P Scope of Practice
 - Any situation where by continuous respiratory assistance is needed
- **Level III- ALS or critical care unit** (EMT-I, EMT-P, RN):
 - IV containing medication is not on the "Paramedic Drug list" or their use is anticipated.
 - PA, arterial or ICP lines present. IABP in place.
 - Patient is not considered stable and/ or physician requests Level III transport.
- **Level IV- ALS or critical care unit** (EMT-I, EMT-P, R.N., physician and other staff as needed):
 - Patient is unstable and level of care is medically indicated.

TREATMENT

- The transferring physician will provide the following information:
 - Patients name
 - Diagnosis/ level of acuity
 - Destination
 - Transfer date and time
 - Accepting unit
 - Accepting physician
 - Special equipment with patient
 - Additional personnel attending patient or required for transport
 - Insurance information, if available
- The transporting unit agrees to accept transfer based on reported information and advises ETA of transfer unit.
- The transferring unit must receive an appropriate patient status report from the transferring physician and/ or RN.
- Transfer personnel receive patient report and confirm appropriate level of care for transfer (see critical information for Level's of care).
- If transferring personnel do not agree with or are unable to provide the level of care requested, they will confer with the transferring physician to assure appropriate level of care during transfer.
- Copies of all pertinent medical records, lab reports, x-rays and transfer forms accompany patient to receiving hospital.

- The following communication is required by each transporting unit:
 - **Level I**
 - Between transporting unit and receiving hospital
 - **Level II, III, IV**
 - Patient remains stable enroute - no communication is necessary
 - Patient unstable enroute - contact transferring physician; if unavailable, request another physician in that facility or contact any other available Marin County hospital physician

DOCUMENTATION- ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

- Inter-facility transfer calls with hospital contact will be reviewed by hospitals directing the calls.
- Statistics on total numbers of ALS level transfer calls per month will be maintained by each provider and submitted to the EMS Office on request (transfers with EMT-P, RN and MD).

RELATED POLICIES/ PROCEDURES

- Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) 1985
- Emergency Medical Treatment & Labor Act (EMTLA) 1986
- Authorized Procedures for EMT-1 Personnel BLS PR 1
- Extended Scope of Practice Procedures for EMT-P ALS PR 1