Intrahospital Transport: Safe passage or potential for disaster?
Cynthia Stermer, RN-BC, MS, CNS
Surgical Services
York Hospital
Wellspan Health

Objectives
• Describe the necessary components of safe intrahospital patient transport
• Explore the benefits of using a checklist or scorecard for patient transport

Practice Issue: Acute Patient Transport
• Concern for patient safety during transport
• Inconsistencies/Varied practice between units
• Transport to a higher level of care
• Procedures/Diagnostic studies/Operating room

Background: Intrahospital Transport
• Increased risk
• Increased morbidity and mortality
• Guidelines for the transport of critically ill patients
• Inter-hospital transport guidelines
• No guidelines for the non-ICU patient
• Adverse events may occur in up to 70% of transports

Practice Question
• Identifying the population
  • "Acutely ill patients"
• Refining and defining search terms
  • "patient transport"/"patient transfer"
  • "interhospital"/"intrahospital"
  • "intrahospital transport"/"intrahospital transfer"
• What are the best practices for intrahospital transport of acutely ill patients?

EBP Model and Evidence
• Johns Hopkins Nursing EBP Model
• Evidence – 22 items

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**Practice Recommendations**

- Intrahospital transport poses many risks; the decision to transport should be balanced between benefit and risk.
- Patients being transported are still acutely ill and should be treated as such by receiving the same physiological monitoring during transport.

**Evidenced based policies and protocols** should be strictly followed and include specific details regarding pre-transport coordination, transport personnel, transport equipment, monitoring during transport, communication and documentation.

Using checklists, algorithms, or scorecards ensures appropriate resources are provided for transport.

**Action Plan**

- Policies
  - Review and revise
- Equipment
  - Type and availability
  - Checklist
- Personnel
  - Classify and define type of staff to transport and their qualifications

**Translation into Practice**

- Policy: “Standard of Care for Patients Being Transported with or without a Cardiac Monitor”
  - Staff qualifications for transporting monitored patients
  - Transport and volunteer staff
  - Equipment
  - Communication
  - Investigating additional resources for transport personnel

**Transport Checklist**

- **Order to transport?**
- **Transport to higher level of care? CALL HELP Team! #2869**
- Portable Monitor: ECG, pulse ox
- Oxygen: Delivery device and tank
- Transport Box
- Staff in attendance RN/MD, transporter
Challenges
• Physicians orders
• Requesting a telemetry bed for a non-telemetry patient
• Staff education
• Strict adherence to the policy

Surgical Service Line EBP Team
• Cynthia Stermer, RN-BC, MS, CNS
• Brenda Artz, RN, MS, CCRN, CNS
• Suzan Brown, RN, MSN, CCNS, CCRN
• Christine Kenrick, RN, BSN
• Jennifer Manifold, RN, BSN
• Mary Jane McKee, RN, BSN, CCRN
• Emily Redding, RN, BSN
• Elizabeth Riche, RN, CPAN
• Tony Ruppert, RT
• Maria Smith, RN, ABN
• Margaret Winemiller, RN, CRN, CCRN

Questions?
• Contact Information: cstermer@wellspan.org