

LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING SERVICES POLICY

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Subject: TRANSPORT	Original Issue Date: 08/91	Policy # 703	
	Supersedes: 09/08	Effective Date: 10/12	
Departments Consulted:	Reviewed & Approved by: Professional Practice Committee Nurse Executive Committee Attending Staff Association Executive Committee	Approved by: (signature on file) Isabel Milan Chief Nursing Officer	

PURPOSE

To describe the process for transporting patients that maximizes continuity of care for patients who require transport among the component sites of LAC+USC Medical Center.

POLICY

The LAC+USC Medical Center maximizes continuity of care for patients who require transport. The level of nursing care during transport is determined by the patient's condition. Comparable care shall be provided during transport.

PROCEDURE

During transport maintain the following:

- Side rails in the up position
- Ordered restraints
- Current isolation precautions

During transport for diagnostic procedures:

- Current physician's orders remain in effect
- The patient shall be accompanied by the identiplate and chart
- A parent or designated staff shall accompany children under age 14 when transported to/from their rooms for procedures or treatments.

Transport of patients with special requirements

Patients Requiring Isolation

- Notify receiving area prior to transport
- Patients requiring respiratory or strict isolation shall wear a mask
- The elevator utilized for transport of the patient shall not transport any other patient or visitor
- Patients with a communicable disease who are discharged and have no means of transportation other than public transportation may be transported via County Transportation

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Jail/Custody Cases

- The jail service deputy will be notified prior to any transport
- For transport of patients remaining in custody see Nursing Policy, "*Patients in Custody*"

Hyperbaric Chamber

- Transport of the patient for hyperbaric chamber treatment is arranged by the physician through the Medical Alert Center (MAC)

Helicopter Transport from the Facility

- The physician shall contact the Medical Alert Center (MAC), whenever helicopter transportation is needed, to transport a patient from the Medical Center to another hospital or location
- The MAC will assist in the arrangement of an air ambulance

Critical Care Patients

- Critically ill/injured or potentially unstable patients shall be transported/monitored at a level of care appropriate for their condition
- The assistance of a physician, critical care nurse, transport team, or other specialized personnel may be requested to accompany the patient during the transport

Pediatric Transport Patients

- Hospital transport team members assigned to transport a child will wear a temporary pink badge issued to them by the charge nurse of the Transport Department. The transporter will return the temporary pink badge to the Transport Department immediately after the child's transport is completed. These badges will be kept locked and when issued will be logged in a logbook
- If the identification badge is lost or stolen, the employee is required to file a police report provide a copy of the report to DHS Human Resources, and pay for the replacement of the identification badge. The employee will also be required to sign an affidavit attesting that the identification badge was lost or stolen. The replacement fee of the identification badge is 24\$ - \$100, depending upon the number of times replaced.

REFERENCE

LAC+USC Medical Center Infection Control Plan
Joint Commission Standards (Continuum of Care)
LAC+USC Medical Center Policy #511

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LAC+USC Medical Center Policy #704

LAC+USC Medical Center Nursing Policy "Transport of Critically Ill Patients from the Adult ICU

REVISION DATES

92, 93, 95, 96, 97, 98, 04/00, 12/01, 04/05, 09/08, 10/12