

## What happens at the receiving hospital?

When we arrive at the receiving hospital we will explain to the medical and nursing staff what has occurred with your child before and during the transfer. We will then move your child to their cot or bed.

If you are not present at this time, the transport team will ring you to let you know they have arrived safely and give you an update on your child's condition.

The staff at the receiving hospital will discuss the different facilities available to you within their organisation, and they will discuss policies such as: visiting policies, staying with your child and giving out of information over the phone.

### Children's Health Ireland – Paediatric Intensive Care Units

| Temple Street Hospital  | Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin  |
|---|---|
| <b>Eircode:</b> D01 XD99<br><b>Phone:</b> 01-878 4256 (PICU)                                      | <b>Eircode:</b> D12 N512<br><b>Phone:</b> 01-409 6450 (PICU Floor 1)<br>01-4096463 (PICU Cardiac) |
| On street 'Pay & Display' parking<br>Mater Hospital car park D07 WKW8<br>Q Park car park DO1 W207 | Crumlin Hospital car park on site<br>On street 'Pay & Display' parking                            |



The transport team is here to offer help, support, advice and information. Please do not hesitate to speak to us about any aspect of your child's care and transfer.

### IPATS Transport Team Members

Consultant:

Registrar:

Nurse:

Ambulance Crew:

Other Team Members:

We value any feedback you would like to give us about the transport of your child by IPATS.

The team will give you a Feedback form to complete at your convenience. Please leave it with the PICU staff and they will send it to IPATS.

Alternatively, you may feedback to the IPATS team using the feedback forms that are available at [www.ipats.ie](http://www.ipats.ie).



**IPATS**  
Irish Paediatric Acute  
Transport Service

**CCRS**  
Critical Care & Retrieval Services

# Parent Information Leaflet



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive





# Welcome to IPATS



The transport of your child is an extremely anxious and stressful time. The need for your child to travel to another hospital for specialist care is necessary to give the best care possible.

You may feel scared and feel a loss of control. These feelings are natural and not uncommon. We aim to provide care and support for you and are happy to answer any questions you may have.

## Who are we?

IPATS is a team of highly skilled staff with a background in Intensive Care Medicine or Anaesthesiology who will safely care for your child during their transfer.

This may be a combination of a doctor and transport nurse. Occasionally we bring additional staff who are receiving further training in transport. When we arrive we will introduce ourselves to your child, yourself and the staff caring for your child. Following a full handover from the staff, we will concentrate on assessing, stabilising and preparing your child for transfer. At this stage we may be busy but we will aim to keep you informed.

## Specialised Equipment

The equipment being used will depend on your child's age, size, and condition. The staff transporting your child will be happy to inform you on what is being used. This may include monitoring equipment, infusion pumps and a breathing machine. The ambulance your child will be travelling in is specially designed to ensure that all necessary facilities for specialist care are provided whilst on the move.



## Getting ready for transfer

The whole process may take some time, please do not be alarmed if this is the case. It is important your child is safe for transfer. Once ready please do not be afraid to touch or kiss your child. A favourite toy or blanket can accompany them if you wish. We will ask you for your contact details and give you the contact details and directions of the receiving hospital.

## Am I allowed to travel with my child?

It is usually not possible due to space or safety issues to travel with your child in the ambulance. This will be assessed by the transport team and the team's decision will be based on ensuring your child's safety first and foremost.

If you do not have access to private transport, the referring hospital staff will discuss arrangements with you.

### If you travel independently, please:

- Do not follow the IPATS Critical Care ambulance as the ambulance may use lights and sirens to facilitate the journey through heavy traffic.
- Please make sure you travel at a safe and steady speed.
- It is not uncommon for the team to stop the ambulance for safety reasons if your child needs attention en route. Please do not be alarmed or stop behind the ambulance. If there is a problem, a member of the team will contact you with an update.
- It is generally advised that you take some time to make arrangements for other children or to pick up any belongings you may need before starting your journey to Dublin.

### If you do accompany your child, please:

- Remain seated and wear your seatbelt at all times during the journey.
- Do not undo your seatbelt during the journey, unless instructed by the team.
- The team will try to keep you updated on your child's condition throughout the journey, but our main priority is caring for your child.
- The team may have frequent discussions by telephone in the ambulance to update the accepting PICU of your child's condition.