

## WHAT HAPPENS AT THE RECEIVING HOSPITAL?

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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. They will also discuss policies such as visiting hours, staying with your child and giving out information over the phone.

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.

You may feedback to the retrieval team using the feedback form provided or on-line at [www.picu.ie](http://www.picu.ie) by following the IPATS feedback link.

You can also get support and advice through the Clinical and Patient Services Department at the hospital your child is being transferred to. This includes help with complaints and advice on available services.

## Parent Information Leaflet



**IRISH PAEDIATRIC ACUTE  
TRANSPORT SERVICE (IPATS)**

## WELCOME TO IPATS

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We understand that the transport of your child is an extremely anxious and stressful time. 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 WE ARE

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IPATS is a team of highly skilled staff who have specialist training to safely care for your child during their transfer.

The team may consist of a doctor and transport nurse. Occasionally we bring staff who are receiving further training in transport. When we arrive we will introduce ourselves to you 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 will be busy but will aim to keep you informed.

## SPECIALISED EQUIPMENT

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

## GETTING READY FOR TRANSFER

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The whole process may take some time, please do not be alarmed if this is the case. It is important that 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 details and directions to the receiving hospital.

## AM I ALLOWED TRAVEL WITH MY CHILD?

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It may not be possible due to space or safety issues but we will, where possible, try to keep you with your child. This will be assessed and decided by the transport team. The team's decision will be based on ensuring your child's safety first and foremost.

While your child is being transferred this may be a good opportunity to make arrangements for other children or to pick up any belongings you may need.

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

Please do not attempt to follow the ambulance. Please make sure you travel at a safe and steady speed.