

This information leaflet aims to help patients and their relatives understand why it may be necessary to transfer a patient to another hospital.

This may be referred to as a “Critical Care Transfer”.

If you have any further questions, please ask the medical staff caring for you or your relative.



### Contact details for Critical Care Units in Greater Manchester

<b>The Christie Hospital</b> Oncology Critical Care	<b>M20 4BX</b> 0161 446 3481
<b>Fairfield General Hospital</b> Critical Care Unit	<b>BL9 7TD</b> 0161 778 2510
<b>Manchester Royal Infirmary</b> Intensive Care Unit High Dependency Unit Cardiac Intensive Care Unit	<b>M13 0HY</b> 0161 276 4712 0161 276 4166 0161 276 4544
<b>North Manchester General Hospital</b> Critical Care Unit	<b>M8 5RB</b> 0161 720 2344
<b>Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan</b> Critical Care	<b>WN1 2NN</b> 01942 822380
<b>Royal Bolton Hospital</b> Intensive Care Unit High Dependency Unit	<b>BL4 0JR</b> 01204 390997 01204 390327
<b>Royal Oldham Hospital</b> Intensive Care Unit Pod A Intensive Care unit Pod B	<b>OL1 2JH</b> 0161 627 8838 0161 627 8925
<b>Salford Royal Hospital</b> Critical Care Unit	<b>M6 8HD</b> 0161 206 8752
<b>Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport</b> Intensive Care Unit High Dependency Unit	<b>SP2 7JE</b> 0161 419 4237 0161 419 4125
<b>Tameside General Hospital</b> Critical Care	<b>OL6 9RW</b> 0161 331 6062
<b>Wythenshawe Hospital</b> Adult General Critical Care Cardiothoracic Critical Care	<b>M23 9LT</b> 0161 291 6403 0161 291 4527



# Critical Care Transfers

A leaflet for patients and relatives

## Critical Care Transfers

### What is a critical care transfer?

A critical care transfer is when a critically ill patient needs to be moved to another hospital.

### Why do we do this?

Although moving a patient to another hospital may be distressing, sometimes it is necessary. Possible reasons for transferring patients include:

- For further tests or procedures
- For specialist care that can only be delivered in certain hospitals
- To move to a hospital nearer home

### What to expect

Throughout the transfer, the patient will be looked after by a team of doctors and nurses trained in the transport of critically ill patients.

The speed at which a patient gets moved to another hospital varies depending on the reason for the transfer.

Someone will explain to you what is happening and why, even if the transfer is done as an emergency.

## What will happen?

### Before the transfer

Once it has been decided that a patient needs to be transferred, hospital staff will tell you why this is necessary and when it will happen.

We will give you details of the ward name and hospital where your relative is being transferred to. If needed, we can give you directions to the new hospital.

It may be necessary to sedate the patient and assist their breathing with a machine during the transfer. However, this may have been done already.

The patient will be moved onto a special bed (stretcher) that can be transported in an ambulance. This enables staff to continue to monitor the patient during a transfer.

### During the transfer

An ambulance will be arranged to transport the patient. The patient will usually be looked after by staff familiar with that patient. If this is not possible, a full handover will be given to the team transferring them.

Due to the limited space in an ambulance, it is not possible for relatives to travel with the patient. You will need to make your own way to the destination hospital.

Occasionally, a patient's condition can change during a transfer. The team looking after the patient will assess them and decide what is best to do. Very occasionally, this may mean returning to the original hospital or diverting to another hospital. You will be contacted as soon as possible if this happens.

### After the transfer

The accompanying doctor and nurse will hand over the care of the patient to the new team. Both teams will ensure that the patient is safe in their new location.

There may be a delay before you can see your relative in their new hospital.

Doctors and nurses will update you about any changes in the plan for the patient.

### Transfer destination details

Name of new hospital:

Address:

Post code:

Ward: