



ACCESS AND TRANSFER CENTER



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Children's Hospital Los Angeles
4650 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90027
888-631-2452
CHLA.org/ACCESS

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The Access and Transfer Center

Patient admissions and transport services to and from Children's Hospital Los Angeles now begin with a single phone call to **888-631-2452** and the hospital's new Access and Transfer Center.

Calls are triaged by a registered nurse trained in critical care and/or emergency nursing. The nurse facilitates rapid communication with Children's Hospital specialty and hospitalist physicians for medical acceptance.

The Access and Transfer Center is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by transportation coordinators, admission specialists and registered nurses at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. The Access Center staff facilitates all aspects of patient transfers and admissions, including:

- Bed placement
- Subspecialty consultation
- Financial clearances
- Transport coordination and dispatch

The Access and Transfer Center is designed to give referring providers the peace of mind that, with only one phone call, all aspects of a child's transfer to Children's Hospital Los Angeles will be well-managed.



Referring Provider Benefits

- Ease of use: One phone call to one phone number for all admission and transport needs
- Customer service
- Efficient use of time
- Patient follow-up

Patient Transport

The Children's Hospital Los Angeles Emergency Transport team carries the most precious cargo of all—infants, children and adolescents suffering from life-threatening illnesses or injuries who need the specialized care only a top-ranked children's hospital can provide.

The hospital's dedicated Emergency Transport team provides inter-facility transfer to and from the hospital by air or ground, as well as transfers between two referring hospitals. Upon notification, the transport coordinator will contact the attending transport physician to determine the most appropriate mode of transfer. The team can mobilize and use one of the following modes of transportation:

- Customized neonatal/pediatric ambulances
- Sikorsky S-76 helicopters
- Learjet

The Emergency Transport team is available 24/7 and provides transportation to Children's Hospital from anywhere in North America and internationally.



The Emergency Transport Program

The transport of fragile patients requires an experienced team of physicians, nurses and respiratory therapists, all trained in neonatal and pediatric critical care.

Transport coordinators work closely with the Access and Transfer Center nurse to understand the critical needs of the patient and to dispatch the most appropriate care team, which will include a combination of the following members:

- Sixteen registered nurses trained in pediatric critical care and/or neonatal medicine
- Eleven critical care-registered respiratory therapists
- Eight attending physicians

A medical command physician supervises all patient transports and is available at any time for immediate consultation. Attending physicians are Board-Certified or Board-Eligible in pediatrics or emergency medicine.

Certifications and Experience

All physicians, nurses and respiratory therapists are certified in pediatric advanced life support (PALS), adult cardiac life support (ACLS) and neonatal resuscitation (NRP). In addition, the nurses are trauma nurse core curriculum (TNCC)-certified. Registered nurses and respiratory therapists have each been trained in tertiary neonatal and pediatric intensive care units and have more than 10 years of critical care experience. They are credentialed through the Medical Staff office for expanded practice, including endotracheal intubation, needle aspiration of a tension pneumothorax, umbilical line insertion and intraosseous cannulation.

Annual Statistics

- Founded in 1985, the Children's Hospital Los Angeles Emergency Transport Program performs more than 2,000 transports per year.
- The Access and Transfer Center receives more than 3,000 emergency referral calls per year.
- The Access and Transfer Center is part of a premier freestanding pediatric hospital with a Level I Pediatric Trauma Center and a Level III neonatal intensive care unit.

Accomplishments

- Pioneered the use of inhaled nitric oxide for newborns as a bridging device until advanced interventions such as extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) can be initiated
- Researched the effects of cerebral perfusion pressure and oxygenation during the use of various transport modalities, transition of high-frequency ventilation to conventional ventilation during transport
- Successfully transitioning neonates off high-frequency ventilation to conventional ventilation during transport

Common Reasons for Transport

- Congenital cardiac anomalies
- Coarctation of the aorta
- Atrial and/or ventricular septal defect
- Tetralogy of Fallot
- Transposition of the great arteries
- Total anomalous pulmonary venous return
- Hypoplastic left heart syndrome
- Congenital diaphragmatic hernia
- Gastrochisis
- Spina bifida
- Severe trauma
- Automobile accidents
- Falls
- Traumatic amputation
- Diabetic ketoacidosis
- Respiratory distress or failure
- Asthma
- Near drowning

Requesting a Transport

When requesting the transport of a pediatric patient please provide the following:

- Patient name and date of birth
- Purpose of the transport
- Chief diagnosis
- Patient condition

