University of New Mexico Hospitals New Born & Pediatric Transports

Since 1975 the University of New Mexico and University of New Mexico Hospitals have provided safe transport of Neonatal patients around the state. UNMH has also operated a second transport service since 1983 – Lifeguard. Beginning July 1, 2017 UNMH Medical Transport will be merged into one program. Lifeguard will transport all patient populations throughout the state of New Mexico and across the country if required.

Advantages for this merger include operational and treatment protocols that are consistent, access to additional resources, reduction in redundancy, access to modern equipment, improved fiscal responsibility to the organization and residents of New Mexico.

With an all-inclusive team, any patient population within New Mexico, at any time will have access to University level healthcare. Patients may be transported to – from UNMH or any hospital within New Mexico or surrounding areas. This reorganization provides the following:

- Family Centered Care – Family members often have opportunity to accompany patients on a transport
- Ability to transport 2 patients; both Mother and Baby* Requires previous notice for logistical purposes
- Ability for Lifeguard to be at bedside during delivery and assist with resuscitation
- Access to 3 medical transport platforms resulting in increased flexibility for increased efficiency: Fixed Wing [airplane], Rotor Wing [helicopter] Critical Care Ground Ambulance.
- Modern Medical Equipment: Hamilton Ventilator, High Frequency Ventilator, Heating & Cooling options, Bilirubin photo therapy, High Flow oxygen delivery, Point of Care testing, Ultrasound. First in Nation to provide new, state of the art, aeronox nitric oxide system
- Variable crew configurations: RN, Paramedic, Respiratory Therapists, Advanced Nurse Practitioners, Physicians

Lifeguard Medical Crew receives on-going training through UNMH. Advanced certifications are required including ACLS, PALS, Trauma, STABLE and NRP.

Transport medicine is dynamic with a need to focus on our teams critical thinking skills for developing a plan of care appropriate to the patient’s needs. Lifeguard is establishing the first dedicated Children’s Specialty Transport Team providing an additional level of Specialty Critical Care for our younger patient’s. We will continue to provide overlap between the Children’s and Adult Teams having developed a tiered triage system for Neonatal Transports.

- Level 1 – Lifeguard Adult Team may cross cover
- Level 2 – Lifeguard Children’s Specialty Team may include Adult team & Children’s team specialists
- Level 3 – Lifeguard Children’s Specialty Team – High Risk [Children’s Specialty Team, may include an additional advanced practice provider]

Please contact us for any additional questions or information

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Contacting UNMH to Request Consult / Transfer / Transport by Lifeguard Children’s Specialty Transport Team to UNMH

Request received for Consult or Transfer to UNMH NBI, Nursery, PICU, Pediatric Floor

- **Neonatal patients < 28 day's birth age transferring to Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery**
  - Contact PALS 888.866.7251 - Request Neonatologist On Call
  - Patient accepted for transfer - UNMH Neonatologists will conference Lifeguard via PALS to arrange transport

- **Pediatric patients any birth age transferring to a location other than Nursery**
  - Contact PALS 888.866.7251 - Request appropriate service ON Call physician
  - Patient accepted for transfer - UNMH Physician will conference Lifeguard via PALS to arrange transport
    - Lifeguard will not begin transport until a bed has been assigned

Requesting Transport by Lifeguard Children’s Specialty Transport Team for Transfer to Other Hospitals

- **Request to transport Neonatal / Pediatric Patient to location outside UNMH**
  - Contact Lifeguard Communications / Dispatch at 505.272.3115 to arrange transport
    - If Children’s Specialty Transport Team not available – Adult Team will use critical thinking and logistics to determine best course which may include contacting an alternate team if felt to be in patients best interest

- **Request to send team to laboring Mother’s bedside - assist with resuscitation**
  - Contact Lifeguard Communications / Dispatch at 505.272.3115
    - Team will use critical thinking skills to determine best course which may including sending 2 teams or seeking assistance from another / alternate service