

Newborn Critical Care Center (NCCC) Clinical Guidelines

Transfer of NCCC Patients to the PICU

BACKGROUND

There is no evidence-based literature to guide the ideal process for transfer of infants from the neonatal intensive care unit (NCCC) to the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU). Decision-making surrounding transfer should include patient age and weight, disease process, anticipated clinical course and maintaining optimal family-centered care.

CRITERIA FOR PLANNED TRANSFER TO PICU

- Severe BPD anticipated to remain hospitalized at 1 year chronological age (CA) with respiratory support not suitable for the pediatric floor
- Surgical process with undefined timeline for intervention precluding discharge home

Process for Planned Transfers to PICU

1. NCCC identifies eligible infants at 8 months CA
 - a. NCCC to talk with family in preparation for potential move to PICU
 - b. Add to EPIC shared patient list ***NCCC to PICU Transfers***
2. Notify PICU
 - a. PICU consult - contact PICU medical director, PICU charge nurse and PICU care coordinator
 - b. PICU to plan to attend CIPS and/or BPD rounds if applicable at 10/11 months CA
3. Transfer to PICU
 - a. Date for transfer identified and agreed upon by NCCC and PICU
 - i. Goal for within 1 week of 1st birthday with few exceptions (DNR/palliative, planned discharge to home or other medical facility, or lack of PICU bed space)
 - b. NCCC Primary or charge nurse to arrange family tour of PICU prior to transfer
 - c. Handoff given from NCCC provider to PICU provider
 - d. NCCC providers to complete transfer note with hospital course

CRITERIA FOR URGENT/EMERGENT TRANSFERS TO PICU

- Greater than 8 months CA, >48 weeks PMA and/or weight >7kg with acute illnesses (i.e. respiratory viruses)
- Renal failure requiring CRRT
- Critical congenital heart disease
- Determined eligible for Extra Corporeal Life Support (ECLS)
- Equipment/devices that are not utilized in the NCCC (i.e. NIRS, EVD)

Process for Urgent/Emergent Transfers to PICU

1. NCCC to contact PICU attending/fellow regarding patient
2. Consult PICU if the decision is made to not transfer patient within 12 hours (due to lack of bed space or change in patient's care plan)