

Neonatal Transport Activation

Neonatal

Transfer to Tacoma General Hospital:

Call 253-403-1024

Neonatologist:

- Receives report from sending facility
- Coordinates with referring provider appropriate method of transport
- Activates the Neonatal Transport Team



UW Medicine

Guidelines for Air vs. Ground:

Emergent Transfer:

- Hemodynamic instability
- Emergent surgical/intervention needed
- Airway or respiratory instability
- Immediate threat to life

Transport distance:
Greater than 40 miles and/or 45 mins

Urgent Transfer:

- Hemodynamic stability
- Urgent surgical need
- Electrolyte/medication management
- Moderate respiratory support need

Transport distance:
Greater than 70 miles and/or 1.5 hours

Stable Transfer:

- Hemodynamic and respiratory stability
- Long-term care management
- Specialty services consult

Transport distance: Greater than 80 miles
and/or Central/Eastern WA

Referring provider requests air transport

If No:
Activate Ground
Transport

If Yes:
Consider Air
Transport

Or Ground if
Air unavailable

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Tacoma General's 70 bed NICU is the only hospital in the South Puget Sound that provides the highest level of care possible for critically ill infants. The Level IV NICU serves extremely premature infants down to 22 weeks gestation and critically ill newborns and is the Neonatal Referral Center for Southwest Washington. Our NICU offers a full range of surgical services.

Neonatal Transport Team

The Tacoma General Neonatal Transport Team provides inter-facility transport services for all patients requiring specialized neonatal care. The team's mission is to provide stabilization and critical care to ill newborns during interfacility transfers. Our partnership with Airlift Northwest allows our team to provide air (helicopter and fixed wing) transport in addition to ground transport.

Services Provided:

- Advanced airway management
- Invasive and non-invasive ventilation
- Umbilical line placement and vascular access
- Active and passive cooling
- Inhaled nitric administration
- Vasoactive medication and infusion administration

Team Highlights:

- Transport Team consists of dedicated neonatal transport nurses and respiratory therapists with special training in caring for patients in an out-of-hospital environment.
- Equipped to transport patients gestational age 22 weeks and up
- Common diagnoses for transport:
 - o Hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy
 - o Respiratory distress syndrome
 - o Congenital heart defects
 - o Persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn
 - o Prematurity
 - o Necrotizing enterocolitis