



Perinatal Services BC

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

September 2011

Process for Transport / Repatriations from Level 3 & 2 NICUs

In response to concerns voiced from clinicians in the level 3 NICU's regarding communications process related to repatriation or reverse transfers of infants requiring ITT from level 3 and 2 NICU's to units closer to home, we have worked together to streamline and improve reconfirm the coordination process.

Because we do work within in a network of care and in partnership with BC Ambulance Service ITT and bcbedline, we need to ensure all stakeholders are informed of the attached algorithm which outlines when a sending physician needs to liaise with the BCW triaging Neonatologist.

In order to minimize the need for the sending MD to routinely link with the BCW Triage Neonatologist, **this will only be required** when ITT has competing priorities or the provincial NICU bed utilization is reaching critical capacity. In this context, the requirement for linking with the BCW Triage Neonatologist will ensure that capacity is optimally being managed in all our level 3 sites.

The initial responsibility to coordinate with BCW Triage Neonatologist as needed may arise at PAAC (when anticipating high ITT utilization) or bcbedline (when anticipating high provincial bed utilization).

As per the algorithm (and consistent with the July 2008 update on neonatal referral and transfer process), please contact bcbedline 1 866-233-2337 for all repatriation or reverse transfers.

Our goal is to continue to improve transport processes and communications in BC. In order to be successful, we need and appreciate your feedback.

Since rely,

Handwritten signature of Kim Williams in blue ink.

Kim Williams
Provincial Executive Director
Perinatal Services BC

Handwritten signature of Dr. Alfonso Solimano in blue ink.

Dr. Alfonso Solimano
Medical Director, Neonatology
Perinatal Services BC