

## Critical Care Adult Tertiary Referral Networks - Intensive Care Default Policy

**Document Number** PD2006\_046

**Publication date** 03-Jul-2006

**Functional Sub group** Clinical/ Patient Services - Transport  
Clinical/ Patient Services - Critical care

**Summary** Details critical care services adult tertiary referral networks for all patients who are critically ill and require transfer to a tertiary facility. Also covers principles for medical retrieval.

**Replaces Doc. No.** Adult Intensive Care Bed Finding [GL2005\_014]

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**Applies to** Area Health Services/Chief Executive Governed Statutory Health Corporation, Board Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Affiliated Health Organisations - Non Declared, Public Health System Support Division, Community Health Centres, Divisions of General Practice, Government Medical Officers, NSW Ambulance Service, NSW Dept of Health, Private Hospitals and Day Procedure Centres, Public Health Units, Public Hospitals

**Audience** All staff, Intensive Care Depts, Emergency Depts, Operating Theatres

**Distributed to** Public Health System, Community Health Centres, Divisions of General Practice, Government Medical Officers, Health Professional Associations and Related Organisations, NSW Ambulance Service, NSW Department of Health, Public Health Units, Public Hospitals, Private Hospitals and Day Procedure Centres

**Review date** 03-Dec-2008

**File No.** E05/7043

**Status** Active

### Director-General

This Policy Directive may be varied, withdrawn or replaced at any time. Compliance with this directive is **mandatory** for NSW Health and is a condition of subsidy for public health organisations.

## NSW CRITICAL CARE TERTIARY REFERRAL NETWORKS (ADULTS)

### Introduction

This policy directive relates to **critically ill** adult patients requiring interhospital transfer.

The NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults) define the links between Area Health Services and tertiary referral hospitals, taking into account the recent Area Health Service reconfigurations and established functional clinical referral relationships.

Operating in tandem with the NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults) there are clinical super-specialty referral networks which are also defined within this policy directive and include the:

1. NSW Severe Burn Injury Service (Adult)
2. NSW Acute Spinal Cord Injury Referrals (Adult)
3. NSW Major Trauma Referrals (Adult)
4. NSW Rural Cardiac Catheter Services (Adult)
5. NSW High Risk Obstetric Referrals (NETS)

Each Area Health Service is ultimately responsible for meeting the intensive care needs (except for super-specialty services) of that Area, with the additional responsibility for the linked rural Area Health Service, where specified. In addition, each Area Health Service has a responsibility to ensure that all options for placement of the critically ill patient within the Area have been explored and that all appropriate transfers from Intensive Care Units within the Area to inpatient wards have been made.

The NSW Aeromedical and Medical Retrieval Service (AMRS), formerly the Medical Retrieval Unit (MRU), provides statewide coordination of adult medical retrieval services in collaboration with the Regional Retrieval Services. Similarly the Regional Retrieval Services liaise with AMRS regarding all retrieval activity. The AMRS is the central point of contact for the medical retrieval of critically ill adult patients.

**To contact Aeromedical and Medical Retrieval Service (AMRS)  
please call: 1800 650 004**

In addition, some Regional Retrieval Services provide a local contact number that is available within that Critical Care Network.

*Title: NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults)*

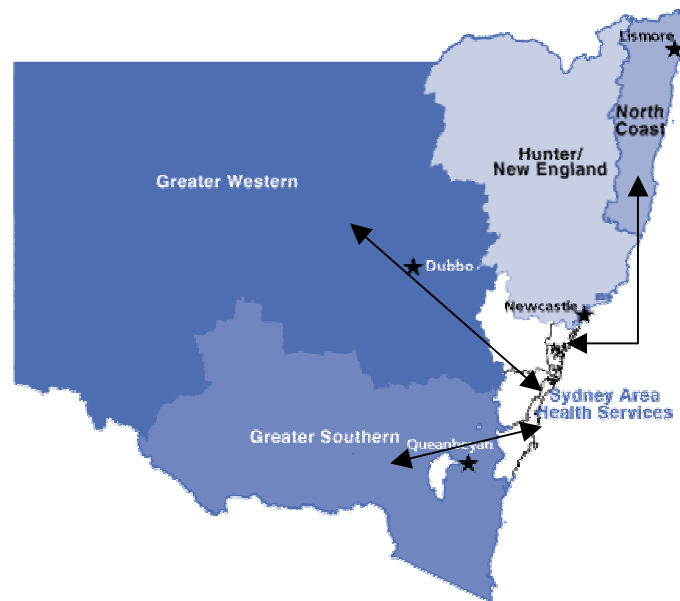
**Either the local contact number or 1800 650 004 can be used.**

**For children 16 years and under call NETS (1300 362 500).**

The following adult critical care tertiary referral networks are designated for all critically ill adult patients requiring transfer to a tertiary facility, and are endorsed by the NSW Critical Care Health Priority Taskforce and the NSW Medical Retrieval Committee.

<b>NSW Critical Care Services Adult Tertiary Referral Network Area Health Service to Tertiary Hospital Link</b>	
<b>Referring Area Health Service</b>	<b>Receiving Tertiary Hospital</b>
Northern Sydney/Central Coast Area Health Service North Coast Area Health Service <sup>1</sup>	Royal North Shore
Hunter/New England Area Health Service	John Hunter
Sydney West Area Health Service	Westmead Nepean
Sydney South West Area Health Service Greater Western Area Health Service <sup>2</sup>	Royal Prince Alfred Liverpool Concord
South Eastern Sydney/Illawarra Area Health Service Greater Southern Area Health Service <sup>3, 4</sup>	Canberra <sup>4</sup> Prince of Wales St George St Vincent's
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Owing to proximity, NCAHS maintains a clinical referral network with Queensland</li> <li>2. Owing to proximity, Broken Hill also maintains a referral network with South Australia</li> <li>3. Owing to proximity, Albury also maintains a referral network with Victoria.</li> <li>4. Owing to proximity, GSAHS also maintains a referral network with The Canberra Hospital for the following hospitals: Bateman's Bay, Batlow, Bega, Bombala, Boorowa, Braidwood, Cooma, Delegate, Moruya, Pambula, Queanbeyan, Tumut, Yass</li> </ol>	

*Title: NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults)*



## **Out-of-Area NSW Critical Care Services Adult Tertiary Referral Networks**

The Greater Southern Area Health Service, Greater Western Area Health Service and North Coast Area Health Service have tertiary referral critical care links with facilities in the Sydney metropolitan area as illustrated. It is acknowledged that these Area Health Services also have cross border networks owing to proximity to tertiary critical care services in Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and the ACT.

## **Clinical Appropriateness**

In specific cases, the referring consultant, medical retrieval consultant and the receiving consultant may decide to refer a patient to a different hospital which is considered more clinically appropriate for the patients definitive care.

## **Rural Critical Care Services**

It is acknowledged that rural Area Health Services are increasingly able to provide tertiary level critical care services to their respective Area. Where appropriate, these regional critical care services should be considered as potential sites to refer critically ill patients, so as to ensure sustainability of these services and to minimise the impact of long distance transfers on patients and their families.

*Title: NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults)*

## **Neonatal and Paediatric Referrals - NSW Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Service (NETS)**

NETS is the statewide emergency service for medical retrieval of critically ill newborns, infants and children in NSW.

Neonatal and paediatric referrals are specifically defined in a separate policy directive.

**To contact NETS call: 1300 362 500.**

## **NSW Aeromedical and Medical Retrieval Services (AMRS)**

The Aeromedical and Medical Retrieval Services (AMRS), previously the Medical Retrieval Unit (MRU) is the 24-hour coordination centre for primary and secondary adult medical retrievals which provides:

- Clinical advice from a critical care medical retrieval consultant;
- Mobilisation of an appropriate retrieval team;
- A “one phone call” referral which uses conference call facilities;
- Assistance with Intensive Care bed availability when usual tertiary referral hospital ICU beds are unavailable;
- Assistance with any emergency where routine patterns of referral are unavailable or unacceptably delayed.

***Early notification will enable early help.  
In emergencies notification can occur prior to full patient  
assessment and investigation  
Call: 1800 650 004***

## **Key Principles**

The key principles of the operation of the Adult Medical Retrieval Service include:

1. The NSW Aeromedical & Medical Retrieval Service (AMRS), provides statewide coordination of adult medical retrieval services, in collaboration with the Regional Retrieval Services located at:
  - Newcastle
  - Orange
  - Tamworth
  - Lismore
  - Canberra

*Title: NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults)*

2. Transfers of critically ill patients must be made through AMRS, or where available, the Regional Retrieval Service. Conference call facilities are available for use between the referring clinician, receiving Medical Consultant and the Medical Retrieval Consultant.
3. The AMRS will facilitate bed finding for critically ill patients from both public and private hospitals to public facilities, for more complex or definitive care. The AMRS is unable to find beds for patients to be electively transferred between private hospitals.
4. Tertiary referral intensive care units are the default hospital for private hospitals from within their Area Health Service.
5. Critically injured patients are to be transferred to the nearest designated appropriate facility (eg. Major Trauma Centre), irrespective of ICU bed status, so that emergency treatment can commence with minimal delay
6. Where there is a discrepancy regarding the clinical appropriateness of the transfer then the final decision will be made by the medical retrieval consultant following a conference call between the referring clinician, receiving medical consultant and the medical retrieval consultant.

## Which Adults May Need A Medical Retrieval?

Those with actual or **potential** significant injuries or illness

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Airway</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All intubated patients</li><li>• Patient's potentially requiring airway intervention enroute (threatened airway obstruction, altered or decreasing LOC, head/neck trauma, head/neck burns)</li></ul> |
| <b>Breathing</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Significant respiratory distress or compromise after treatment</li><li>• RR &lt; 8 or &gt;30, SpO<sub>2</sub> ≤ 90% on 15L oxygen</li><li>• Any patient dependant on CPAP or BiPAP</li></ul>         |
| <b>Circulation</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Circulatory shock of any cause</li><li>• Hypotension SBP ≤ 100mmHg</li><li>• Complex or recurrent arrhythmias (eg. recurrent VF, sustained VT, CHB)</li><li>• Ongoing significant bleeding</li></ul> |
| <b>Disability</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Significant altered LOC – GCS ≤ 13</li><li>• Significant head injury</li><li>• Acute spinal cord injuries</li><li>• Recurrent or prolonged seizures</li><li>• Intracerebral bleeding</li></ul>       |

*Title: NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults)*

The AMRS requires specific information regarding the patient's details, clinical management and clinical status. A pro-forma for the information required for adult critical care transfers is included in this Policy Directive to guide referring clinicians (page 18).

## **Clinical Super-Specialty Referral Networks**

A number of statewide clinical super-speciality networks operate in tandem with the NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults).

These networks are largely determined by the location of the clinical super-specialty services, and in some cases, the imperative to achieve early clinical intervention such as for those patients with major trauma.

The following clinical super-specialty referral networks are defined:

### **1. NSW Severe Burn Injury Service (Adult)**

The NSW Severe Burn Injury Service (Adult) is part of the Statewide Severe Burn Service Network located at Concord Repatriation General Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital. Children requiring attention for severe burn injury will be cared for at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

### **2. NSW Acute Spinal Cord Injury Service (Adult)**

The NSW Acute Spinal Cord Injury Service (Adult) is located at the Prince of Wales Hospital and the Royal North Shore Hospital.

### **3. NSW Major Trauma Service (Adult)**

### **4. NSW Rural Cardiac Catheter Services (Adult)**

### **1. NSW Severe Burn Injury Service Referral Network (Adult)**

Patients with severe burn injury are to be referred according to the "NSW Severe Burn Injury Service - Burn Transfer Guidelines/Burns Transfer Flow Chart" available at

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/2004/burninjuryguidelines.html>.

Initial care should be provided according to the "NSW Severe Burn Injury Service Model of Care" available at

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/2004/burninjurymoc.html>.

**AMRS is to be contacted to facilitate all Adult Severe Burn Injury Referrals  
on 1800 650 004**

Title: NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults)

Referring Area Health Service	Receiving Severe Burn Hospital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Eastern Sydney/Illawarra AHS</li> <li>• Sydney West AHS</li> <li>• South Western Sydney AHS</li> <li>• Greater Southern AHS</li> <li>• Greater Western AHS</li> <li>• Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Concord Repatriation General Hospital</b></p> <p>Burns Registrar/Consultant on-call Ph: (02) 9767 5000 then page.</p> <p>Intensive Care Unit Ph: (02) 9767 6404</p> <p>Burn Unit/Ambulatory Care Ph: (02) 9767 7775 (b/h) Ph: (02) 9767 7776 (a/h) Fax: (02) 9767 5835</p> <p>Burns CNC Ph: (02) 9767 5000 then page 60271 Office 9767 7798</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northern Sydney/Central Coast AHS</li> <li>• Hunter /New England AHS</li> <li>• North Coast AHS</li> </ul>	<p><b>Royal North Shore Hospital</b></p> <p>Burns Registrar/Consultant on-call Ph: (02) 9926 7111 then page.</p> <p>Intensive Care Unit Ph: (02) 9926 8640 or (02) 9926 8642</p> <p>Burns Unit/Ambulatory Care Ph: (02) 9926 7988 (b/h) Ph: (02) 9926 8941 (a/h) Fax. (02) 9926 7589</p> <p>Burns/Plastics CNC Ph: (02) 9926 8940 Ph: (02) 9926 7111 then page</p>

**The Children’s Hospital at Westmead will take referrals for all children up to the age of 16 years with severe burns - patient transfers are facilitated by NETS, 1300 362 500.**

## 2. NSW Acute Spinal Cord Injury Referral Network (Adult)

The State Spinal Cord Injury Service (SSCIS) is responsible for the management of adults who have sustained a spinal cord injury, with evidence of damage to the neural tissues as a result of trauma, or from a non-progressive disease process (eg. transverse myelitis, vascular occlusion, compression by infective process or haemorrhage).

*Title: NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults)*

Progressive conditions such as demyelinating and degenerative conditions of the spinal cord, metastatic lesions or congenital disorders are not the province of the State Spinal Cord Injury Service.

The key element of this referral network is the coordination and facilitation of the bed finding process for acute spinal cord injuries with neural loss, by AMRS, who will facilitate communication between referring services and spinal unit clinicians in relation to acute clinical care. This referral process only pertains to acute spinal cord injuries with neural loss and those spinal cord injuries as defined by the SSCIS. Patients with vertebral fractures only, are to be referred to a Spinal/Orthopaedic or Neurosurgeon via the existing referral process for each health service.

AMRS does not locate beds for patients with vertebral fractures only.

**AMRS is to be contacted to facilitate all Adult Acute Spinal Cord Injury Referrals on 1800 650 004**

To facilitate the referral process the Spinal Cord Injury Referral Network describes the allocation of services for acute spinal cord injuries. This referral network will be used to allocate spinal beds by the AMRS and is to be used when seeking clinical advice from the spinal units.

Referring Area Health Service	Receiving Spinal Cord Injury Hospital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Eastern/Illawarra AHS</li> <li>• Greater Southern AHS</li> <li>• South Western Sydney AHS</li> <li>• Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Prince of Wales Hospital</b> Director Dr Stella Engel Ph: (02) 93822222</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northern Sydney/Central Coast AHS</li> <li>• Sydney West AHS</li> <li>• Greater Western AHS</li> <li>• Hunter/New England AHS</li> <li>• North Coast AHS</li> </ul>	<p><b>Royal North Shore Hospital</b> Head of Department Dr Lianne Hunt Ph: (02) 99267111</p>

### 3. NSW Major Trauma Services (Adult)

The NSW Statewide Trauma Services Plan is currently under review and may result in a re-designation of existing current major trauma centres. The current NSW Trauma Network is outlined below and remains in place until the plan is finalised and implemented.

**Title: NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults)**

NSW Trauma Network Hospitals	Area Health Service Primary and Secondary Responsibility	Referring Rural Area Health Service/Trauma Network Responsibility
<b>Central Western Trauma Network</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Westmead</li> <li>• Liverpool</li> <li>• Nepean</li> <li>• Royal Prince Alfred</li> <li>• Concord Severe (Burns Unit)</li> </ul>	Sydney West AHS Sydney South West AHS	Greater Western AHS Greater Southern AHS (Upper)
<b>South Eastern Trauma Network</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St George</li> <li>• Sydney Children's (Paediatric)</li> <li>• St Vincent's</li> <li>• Wollongong (Regional)</li> <li>• POWH (Spinal Unit)</li> </ul>	South Eastern/Illawarra AHS	Greater Southern AHS (Lower)
<b>Northern Hunter Trauma Network</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Royal North Shore</li> <li>• John Hunter</li> <li>• John Hunter Children's (Paediatric)</li> <li>• Gosford (Regional)</li> <li>• Royal North Shore (Spinal Unit)</li> <li>• Royal North Shore Severe (Burns Unit)</li> </ul>	Northern Sydney Central Coast AHS	Hunter New England AHS/North Coast AHS

Due to proximity, tertiary trauma referrals from the upper North Coast Area Health Service may go to South East Queensland and tertiary trauma referrals from Albury Base Hospital may go to a Victorian Major Trauma Service.

While John Hunter Hospital is not the tertiary referral hospital for NCAHS critically ill patients requiring intensive care, it is the closest NSW major trauma service to the NCAHS. As such, this should be considered a suitable destination for major trauma patients from this Area Health Service.

The ACT takes a significant number of tertiary trauma referrals from the local Greater Southern Area Health Service.

#### 4. NSW Rural Cardiac Catheter Laboratory Referrals

The NSW Rural Health Plan (2002) provided for the establishment of cardiac catheter services for adults at Tamworth, Orange, Wagga Wagga, Coffs Harbour and Lismore over a seven-year period. In the event of a patient requiring urgent inter-hospital transfer from a rural cardiac catheter service to a tertiary hospital then the patient will be transferred according to the NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults), as previously described.

## NSW STATEWIDE DEFAULT ICU MATRIX (ADULT)

### NSW Statewide Default Adult ICU Bed Policy

Each metropolitan Area Health Service is ultimately responsible for meeting the intensive care needs (except for super-specialty services) of that Area, with the additional responsibility for a linked rural Area Health Service, where specified. In addition, each Area Health Service has a responsibility to ensure that all options for placement of the patient within the Area have been explored and that all appropriate transfers from Intensive Care Units within the Area to inpatient wards have been made.

In situations where there needs to be declared that **no adult intensive care beds** are available and a tertiary transfer is necessary, then the Default Adult Intensive Care Bed Policy may be invoked. This step is taken only after thorough assessment of intensive care services capacity and intra-Area default mechanisms, where they exist, within the appropriate Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks for Adults.

In the event of the default system being activated, a referral hospital will be designated as the hospital responsible for a group of referring hospitals, to provide critical care, irrespective of bed status, as specified in the Default Hospital Matrix. This matrix has been developed following consultation with Area Health Services, the NSW Medical Retrieval Committee, Critical Care Health Priority Taskforce, Intensive Care Taskforce and other key stakeholders. The NSW Intensive Care Default Hospital Matrix defines the default linkages.

Fundamental to this procedure being activated is the principle that:

Where a patient is critical and requires immediate emergency treatment, then that patient must be transferred immediately to the facility designated by the Default Hospital Matrix that is able to provide appropriate emergency treatment irrespective of bed status; this can be addressed following the initiation of emergency care.

The Aeromedical and Medical Retrieval Service (AMRS) will negotiate with the default adult tertiary intensive care unit to facilitate the transfer of the patient.

The Default Matrix is based on a hospital-to-hospital network and does not necessarily follow the normal Area Critical Care Referral Networks. In specific cases the referring consultant, medical retrieval consultant and the receiving consultant may decide to refer a patient to a different hospital which is considered more clinically appropriate for the patients definitive care.

## NSW STATEWIDE DEFAULT ICU MATRIX (ADULT)

The default system will only be used when other options are not possible. The on duty Medical Retrieval Consultant at AMRS will liaise with the Director, Statewide Services Development Branch to advise an invoking of the Default Matrix.

Referral Hospital: ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL	
North Coast <sup>1</sup> Area Health Service	Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ballina</li> <li>• Bellingen</li> <li>• Bonalbo</li> <li>• Byron</li> <li>• Campbell</li> <li>• Casino</li> <li>• Coffs Harbour</li> <li>• Dorrigo</li> <li>• Grafton</li> <li>• Kyogle</li> <li>• Lismore</li> <li>• Maclean</li> <li>• Macleay/Kempsey</li> <li>• Macksville</li> <li>• Mullumbimby</li> <li>• Murwillumbah</li> <li>• Nimbin</li> <li>• Port Macquarie</li> <li>• Riverlands</li> <li>• Tweed Heads</li> <li>• Urbenville</li> <li>• Wauchope</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Castlecrag (Private)</li> <li>• Dalcross (Private)</li> <li>• Gosford</li> <li>• Hornsby</li> <li>• Manly</li> <li>• Mater Misericordiae (Private)</li> <li>• Mona Vale</li> <li>• North Shore (Private)</li> <li>• Royal Rehabilitation</li> <li>• Ryde</li> <li>• Sydney Adventist (Private)</li> <li>• Woy Woy</li> <li>• Wyong</li> </ul>

- Owing to proximity, NCAHS Hospitals also maintain a clinical referral network with Queensland.

## NSW STATEWIDE DEFAULT ICU MATRIX (ADULT)

Referral Hospital: JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL	
<i>Hunter New England Area Health Service</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Armidale</li> <li>• Barraba</li> <li>• Belmont</li> <li>• Bingara</li> <li>• Boggabri</li> <li>• Buladelah</li> <li>• Cessnock</li> <li>• Denman</li> <li>• Dungog</li> <li>• Glen Innes</li> <li>• Gloucester</li> <li>• Gunnedah</li> <li>• Guyra</li> <li>• Inverell</li> <li>• James Fletcher</li> <li>• Kurri Kurri</li> <li>• Lake Macquarie (private)</li> <li>• Maitland</li> <li>• Manilla</li> <li>• Manning</li> <li>• Merriwa</li> <li>• Moree</li> <li>• Morisset</li> <li>• Murrurundi</li> <li>• Muswellbrook</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrabri</li> <li>• Newcastle Mater Misericordiae</li> <li>• Quirindi</li> <li>• Scone</li> <li>• Scott Memorial</li> <li>• Singleton</li> <li>• Tamworth</li> <li>• Taree</li> <li>• Tingha</li> <li>• Tomaree Community (formerly Nelson Bay Polyclinic)</li> <li>• Vegetable Creek (Emmaville)</li> <li>• Walcha</li> <li>• Warialda</li> <li>• Wee Waa</li> <li>• Werris Creek</li> </ul>

## NSW STATEWIDE DEFAULT ICU MATRIX (ADULT)

<b>Referral Hospital:</b>	<b>WESTMEAD HOSPITAL</b>
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- Blacktown
- Baulkham Hills (Private)
- St Joseph's Auburn
- Westmead (Private)

<b>Referral Hospital:</b>	<b>NEPEAN HOSPITAL</b>
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- Blue Mountains
- Hawkesbury
- Lithgow
- Portland
- Springwood

<b>Referral Hospital:</b>	<b>BLACKTOWN HOSPITAL</b>
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- Auburn
- Mt Druitt

## NSW STATEWIDE DEFAULT ICU MATRIX (ADULT)

Referral Hospital: ROYAL PRINCE ALFRED HOSPITAL			
<b>Sydney South West Area Health Service</b>	<b>Greater Western <sup>2</sup> Area Health Service</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Balmain</li> </ul>	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Balranald</li> <li>Baradine</li> <li>Bathurst</li> <li>Blayney</li> <li>Bourke</li> <li>Brewarrina</li> <li>Broken Hill</li> <li>Canowindra</li> <li>Cobar</li> <li>Collarenebri</li> <li>Coolah</li> <li>Condobolin</li> <li>Coonabarabran</li> <li>Coonamble</li> <li>Cowra</li> <li>Cudal</li> <li>Dubbo</li> <li>Dunedoo</li> <li>Eugowra</li> <li>Forbes</li> <li>Gilgandra</li> <li>Goodooga</li> <li>Grenfell</li> <li>Gulgong</li> <li>Gulargambone</li> </ul> </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ivanhoe</li> <li>Lake Cargelligo</li> <li>Lightening Ridge</li> <li>Molong</li> <li>Mudgee</li> <li>Narromine</li> <li>Nyngan</li> <li>Oberon</li> <li>Orange</li> <li>Parkes</li> <li>Peak Hill</li> <li>Rylstone</li> <li>Tibooburra</li> <li>Tottenham</li> <li>Trangie</li> <li>Trundle</li> <li>Tullamore</li> <li>Walgett</li> <li>Warren</li> <li>Wellington</li> <li>Wentworth</li> <li>White Cliffs</li> <li>Wilcannia</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Balranald</li> <li>Baradine</li> <li>Bathurst</li> <li>Blayney</li> <li>Bourke</li> <li>Brewarrina</li> <li>Broken Hill</li> <li>Canowindra</li> <li>Cobar</li> <li>Collarenebri</li> <li>Coolah</li> <li>Condobolin</li> <li>Coonabarabran</li> <li>Coonamble</li> <li>Cowra</li> <li>Cudal</li> <li>Dubbo</li> <li>Dunedoo</li> <li>Eugowra</li> <li>Forbes</li> <li>Gilgandra</li> <li>Goodooga</li> <li>Grenfell</li> <li>Gulgong</li> <li>Gulargambone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ivanhoe</li> <li>Lake Cargelligo</li> <li>Lightening Ridge</li> <li>Molong</li> <li>Mudgee</li> <li>Narromine</li> <li>Nyngan</li> <li>Oberon</li> <li>Orange</li> <li>Parkes</li> <li>Peak Hill</li> <li>Rylstone</li> <li>Tibooburra</li> <li>Tottenham</li> <li>Trangie</li> <li>Trundle</li> <li>Tullamore</li> <li>Walgett</li> <li>Warren</li> <li>Wellington</li> <li>Wentworth</li> <li>White Cliffs</li> <li>Wilcannia</li> </ul>
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Referral Hospital: CONCORD HOSPITAL			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canterbury</li> </ul>			
Referral Hospital: LIVERPOOL HOSPITAL			
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bowral</li> <li>Campbelltown</li> <li>Camden</li> </ul> </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bankstown/Lidcombe</li> <li>Fairfield</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bowral</li> <li>Campbelltown</li> <li>Camden</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bankstown/Lidcombe</li> <li>Fairfield</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bowral</li> <li>Campbelltown</li> <li>Camden</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bankstown/Lidcombe</li> <li>Fairfield</li> </ul>		

2. Owing to proximity, GWAHS also maintains a referral network with South Australia.

## NSW STATEWIDE DEFAULT ICU MATRIX (ADULT)

### South Eastern Sydney Illawarra Area Health Service

<b>Referral Hospital: PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL</b>	
<b>Sydney South East Illawarra Area Health Service</b>	<b>Greater Southern Area Health Service</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prince of Wales (Private)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boorowa</li> <li>Crookwell</li> <li>Goulburn</li> <li>Murrumburrah-Harden</li> <li>Young</li> </ul>

<b>Referral Hospital: ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL</b>	
<b>Sydney South East Illawarra Area Health Service</b>	<b>Greater Southern Area Health Service</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Vincent's (Private)</li> <li>Sydney/Sydney Eye</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coolamon</li> <li>Cootumundra</li> <li>Griffith</li> <li>Gundagai</li> <li>Hay</li> <li>Hillston</li> <li>Junee</li> <li>Leeton</li> <li>Lockhart</li> <li>Narrandera</li> <li>Temora</li> <li>Tumbarumba</li> <li>Wagga Wagga</li> <li>West Wyalong</li> </ul>

## NSW STATEWIDE DEFAULT ICU MATRIX (ADULT)

Referral Hospital: ST GEORGE HOSPITAL	
<b>Sydney South East Illawarra Area Health Service</b>	<b>Greater Southern<sup>3</sup> Area Health Service</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kareena (Private)</li> <li>• Sutherland</li> <li>• St George (Private)</li> <li>• Wollongong</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Albury</li> <li>• Barham</li> <li>• Berrigan</li> <li>• Corowa</li> <li>• Culcairn</li> <li>• Deniliquin</li> <li>• Finley</li> <li>• Henty</li> <li>• Holbrook</li> <li>• Jerilderie</li> <li>• Tocumwal</li> </ul>

3. Owing to proximity, GSAHS (Albury) also maintains a referral network with Victoria

Referral Hospital: WOLLONGONG HOSPITAL	
<b>Sydney South East Illawarra Area Health Service</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bulli</li> <li>• Milton Ulladulla</li> <li>• Port Kembla</li> <li>• Shell Harbour</li> <li>• Shoalhaven</li> </ul>	

Referral Hospital: THE CANBERRA HOSPITAL	
<b>Greater Southern Area Health Service</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Batemans Bay</li> <li>• Batlow</li> <li>• Bega</li> <li>• Bombala</li> <li>• Braidwood</li> <li>• Cooma</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delegate</li> <li>• Moruya</li> <li>• Pambula</li> <li>• Queanbeyan</li> <li>• Tumut</li> <li>• Yass</li> </ul>

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*Title: NSW Critical Care Tertiary Referral Networks (Adults)*

## CLINICAL RESOURCE DOCUMENTS

- Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine, Australian & New Zealand College of Anaesthetists and the Australasian College of Emergency Medicine.

- Minimum Standards for Transport of Critically Ill Patients

[http://www.jficm.anzca.edu.au/publications/policy/ic10\\_2003.htm](http://www.jficm.anzca.edu.au/publications/policy/ic10_2003.htm)

- Minimum Standards for Intrahospital Transport of Critically Ill Patients:

[http://www.anzca.edu.au/publications/profdocs/profstandards/ps39\\_2003.htm](http://www.anzca.edu.au/publications/profdocs/profstandards/ps39_2003.htm)



NSW Aeromedical and Medical Retrieval Services (AMRS)

Patient Label

ADULT CRITICAL CARE TRANSFERS

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Weight (kgs) \_\_\_\_\_

Referring Hosp \_\_\_\_\_ Referring Doctor \_\_\_\_\_

Receiving Hosp \_\_\_\_\_ Rec Doctor \_\_\_\_\_ Ward \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

AIRWAY

Consider if ETT required  Correct ETT position  ETT secure  NGT/OGT if intubated or vomiting  Consider hard C collar

BREATHING

Resp Rate \_\_\_\_\_ SpO2 \_\_\_\_\_ FiO2 \_\_\_\_\_ Ventilation Parameters \_\_\_\_\_ ETCO2 \_\_\_\_\_ PAWP \_\_\_\_\_

Consider if ICC/s required  Correct ICC/s position and function

CIRCULATION

Pulse \_\_\_\_\_ Blood Pressure \_\_\_\_\_ Urine Output (IDC) \_\_\_\_\_ Core Temperature \_\_\_\_\_ Arrhythmias \_\_\_\_\_

Peripheral (large) IVs x2  All maintenance fluids/blood on pumpsets  Patient and fluids warmed Total fluids IN \_\_\_\_\_

Pelvic stabilisation/limb splints  Consider Central line  Consider Arterial line

DISABILITY

GCS \_\_\_\_\_ Pupils \_\_\_\_\_ Focal Neurology \_\_\_\_\_ Seizures \_\_\_\_\_

DIAGNOSTICS

X-rays \_\_\_\_\_ CT/Scan/s \_\_\_\_\_ ABG \_\_\_\_\_ K / Cr \_\_\_\_\_ ECG \_\_\_\_\_

BSL \_\_\_\_\_ Hb \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

INFUSIONS

Sedation?  Morphine/Midazolam (50mg:50mg:to total 50ml)  Propofol (40ml neat in 50ml syringe)  Nil

Others  
1. Drug \_\_\_\_\_ Concentration \_\_\_\_\_ Rate \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Drug \_\_\_\_\_ Concentration \_\_\_\_\_ Rate \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Drug \_\_\_\_\_ Concentration \_\_\_\_\_ Rate \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION

- Summary letter
- Photocopies of all notes including ECG's and Ambulance Cases-sheets
- All relevant X-rays and CT scans – originals or copies

STABILITY

Is the patient's overall condition  Improving?  
 Stable?  
 Deteriorating?

**Is there anything more I can do to help this patient without delaying transfer?  
Clinical and transport advice is available around the clock from an experienced  
Retrieval Physician for critically ill adult transfers – Ring 1800 650 004.**