

Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Services (NETS) Charges

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Functional Sub group Corporate Administration - Fees
Clinical/ Patient Services - Transport

Summary NETS charges, including charges for primary services and inter-hospital services.

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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, Affiliated Health Organisations - Declared, NSW Ambulance Service, Public Hospitals

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Policy Manual Fees

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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This Policy Directive may be varied, withdrawn or replaced at any time.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 NEWBORN AND PAEDIATRIC EMERGENCY TRANSPORT SERVICES (NETS) CHARGES

Charges, including Inter Hospital Charges payable by Area Health Services under the Ambulance/NETS Partnership Agreement, are effective on and from 1 July 2008.

1. This Policy Directive sets out the charges for services provided by the unit of Sydney West Area Health Service known as NSW Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Service (NETS). For the purposes of NETS only, the following terms are defined:

“inter-hospital emergency service” means the provision of NETS services by road, fixed wing aircraft or helicopter or a combination of these, from a public hospital to another public hospital;

“primary emergency service” means the provision of NETS services by road, fixed wing aircraft or helicopter or a combination of these, from a private hospital to a public hospital or other destination nominated by NETS.

Fees

2. The fee for a **primary emergency service** by road and/or fixed wing service and/or helicopter shall be charged on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to paragraph 4, on the scale of \$301 callout, plus an additional charge of \$2.72 for each kilometre or part thereof provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$4,938.
3. The fee for an **inter-hospital emergency service** by NETS shall be charged as follows:
 - 3.1 road service - on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to paragraph 4, on the scale of \$510 callout, plus an additional charge of \$5.09 for each kilometre or part thereof provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$4,772;
 - 3.2 fixed wing service - on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to paragraph 4, on the scale of \$3,143 callout, plus an additional charge of \$1.47 for each kilometre or part thereof (road travel associated with fixed wing cases is charged at the rate of \$5.09 for each kilometre or part thereof), provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$4,772;
 - 3.3 helicopter service - on a time basis calculated pursuant to paragraph 5 on the scale of \$5,396 for the first thirty (30) minutes or part thereof, with any further period charged at a rate of \$118.09 per six (6) minutes or part thereof.

Charges for road or fixed wing transport under this clause shall be paid by the hospital or health service sending the person being transported. However in the case of helicopter transport under this clause, the transport fee shall be apportioned equally between the hospital or health service sending the person being transported and the hospital or health service receiving that person.

Calculation of Transport Kilometres

4. The total number of kilometres for the provision of NETS services shall be calculated by determining the total number of kilometres that are travelled by road or, in the case of transportation by fixed wing aircraft or helicopter that would have been travelled by road had no fixed wing aircraft or helicopter been available, in accordance with the distance:
 - 4.1 from the NETS base nearest to the location where the patient was picked up or treated by the NETS service; and
 - 4.2 from that pick up location (where transport occurs), to the place where that patient disembarked from the NETS transport; and
 - 4.3 from that place of disembarkation (or where no transport occurs, from the treatment location), back to the NETS base referred to in subclause 4.1.

Calculation of Transport Time for Helicopters (Inter-hospital emergency services only)

5. The number of minutes for a NETS service by helicopter (for the purposes of paragraph 3.3) shall be calculated from the time the helicopter engine or engines are turned on, or, if the engines are already on, the time at which the helicopter is dispatched by an air ambulance controller, to the time the helicopter engine or engines are turned off at the helicopter's operational base, or the time at which the helicopter is otherwise dispatched by an air ambulance controller or other authority.

Charging Criteria

6. Where two or more patients are transported/treated concurrently by the same NETS service, each patient shall be charged a fee calculated in accordance with paragraphs 2 or 3 as appropriate to that transport.
7. Paragraph 6 shall not apply when two or more patients are transferred concurrently by a NETS service between any public hospital in New South Wales.
8. Budget supplementation is **not** available to fund any increased costs resulting from this policy directive with such costs to be met from within existing allocations.
9. The above rates are applicable in relation to NETS services provided to NSW Public Hospitals (Inter-hospital) and NSW Private Hospitals (Primary).
10. Residents of other States or Territories, which are not a party to any Reciprocal Rights Agreement as to ambulance/NETS services (currently Queensland and South Australia do not have an agreement), shall be charged full cost recovery as follows:

Primary	Road Emergency	Fixed Wing Emergency	Helicopter Emergency
	\$'s	\$'s	\$'s
Call-Out	590	590	590
Variable Rate	5.33	5.33	5.33
Max.Charge	N/A	N/A	N/A

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

- NETS Services are deemed to be a taxable supply (subject to GST) and accordingly the rates advised in this policy directive are to be grossed-up in accordance with Treasury Circular No.00/06.