

Welcome to the NISTAR Paediatric Transport Service.

The transport of your son or daughter is an extremely anxious and stressful time.

You may feel scared and not in control. These feelings are not uncommon. We aim to provide care and support for you and your child and are happy to answer any questions you may have.

The need for the NISTAR transport team is to safely transport your child to a specialist care unit.

Who we are:

The NISTAR paediatric transport team is a team of highly skilled staff with the appropriate specialist skills to safely care for your child during their transfer.

This team will include a Doctor and transport nurse. Occasionally we will bring staff who are receiving further training in transport.

When we arrive we will introduce ourselves to you and the staff caring for your child. After handover from the staff, we will concentrate on assessing, stabilising and preparing your child for transfer. At this time we may be busy but will keep you informed.

Specialist equipment

The equipment being used will depend on your child's age, size and condition. The staff transporting your child will be happy to explain what is being used. This may include monitoring equipment, infusion pumps and a breathing machine. The ambulance your child will be travelling in is specially designed, providing all the necessary facilities for specialist care whilst on the move.

Getting ready for transfer

The whole process may take some time, please do not be alarmed if this is the case. It is important your child is safe for transfer.

Once ready please don't be scared to touch or kiss your child. We will ask you for your contact details if you are not travelling with your child so we can keep you informed.

Can I travel with my child?

There may be the opportunity, if your child's condition allows, for one parent to travel in the ambulance, but this will be assessed by the team at the time. It may not be possible due to space or safety issues. If it is possible for

you to travel, and you decide to take the opportunity, it is important that you bring only one small piece of hand luggage due to the limited storage in the ambulance.

Not all parents wish to travel and that is okay too. This may be a good opportunity to make arrangements for other children or to pick up any belongings you may need.

If you are unable to travel in the ambulance please do not attempt to follow it. Please make sure you travel at a safe and steady speed.

What happens at the receiving hospital?

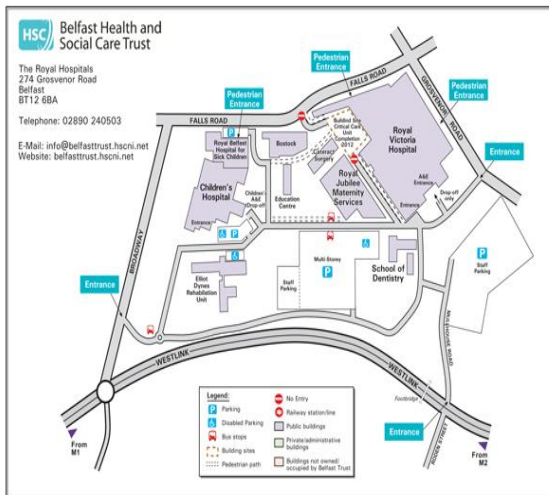
When we get to the receiving hospital we will explain to the medical and nursing staff what has happened both before and during transfer. We will then move your child to their new bed or cot.

If you are not present at this time the NISTAR team will ring you to let you know they have arrived safely and give you an update on your child's condition.

The NISTAR paediatric team is here to offer you help, support, advice and information. Please do not hesitate to speak to us about any aspect of your child's care and transfer.

Please give us feedback about your NISTAR experience via the website:

www.belfasttrust.hscni.net/services/NISTAR%20.htm



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Paediatric Parent Information leaflet

