



INTERFACILITY TRANSFER – GROUND AMBULANCE STROKE SYSTEM TRANSFER GUIDELINES

Effective: January 1, 2021
Replaces: October 1, 2018
Review: January 1, 2023

I. Purpose of the Schedule

The purpose of this schedule is to identify Santa Clara County Stroke System Transfer Guidelines.

II. Stroke Transfer Procedure

Stroke Transfer Procedure	
Step 1	Confirm patient needs endovascular or surgical neuro-intervention.
Step 2	Contact the receiving “Stroke Center” and confirm that the receiving physician will accept the patient.
Step 3	Determine the appropriate “Type of Ambulance Transport”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Is the patient receiving any medications? ◆ Will a CCT-RN be needed?
Step 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Initiate the transfer process immediately with your non-911 contracted ambulance provider, transfers can always be cancelled. ◆ Request a response that is appropriate to the patient’s acuity. ◆ Evaluate the expected time of arrival for the transport ambulance with the acuity of the patient. ◆ If needed, contact another non-911 ambulance provider (CCT-RN or non-911 ALS); compare estimated time of arrival (ETA).
Step 5	If the patient has no medications and is not in need of a CCT-RN and the acuity dictates rapid transfer by 911 ALS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contact County Communications via direct phone line 408.299.3325. ◆ Expect a ten (10) minute response time. ◆ Have all necessary paperwork and films ready prior to ambulance arrival.
Step 6	Prepare patient and paperwork for immediate transport ambulance arrives.

III. Type of Ambulance Transports for Stroke Transfers

Ground Ambulance Transport	
CCT-RN	Provide ALS, administer most medications/drips, provide mechanical ventilation, and provide nursing care in accordance with the California Board of Nursing scope of practice.
Non-911 ALS	<p>Provide ALS. Most IV medications utilized for stroke patient are not in the paramedic's scope of practice, including thrombolytics. Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Give bolus medication prior to arrival, or ◆ Complete the infusion, or ◆ Make plans to send facility staff (minimum one RN) during the transport to complete the infusion. ◆ Thrombolytics cannot be running at time of call, unless facility staff (minimum RN) is at patient's side.
911 ALS	<p><u>Only for critically ill patients that need immediate transfer.</u></p> <p>Provide ALS. Most IV medications utilized for stroke patient are not in the paramedic's scope of practice, including thrombolytics. Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Give bolus medication prior to arrival, or ◆ Complete the infusion, or ◆ Make plans to send facility staff (minimum one RN) during the transport to complete the infusion. ◆ Thrombolytics cannot be running at time of call, unless facility staff (minimum RN) is at patient's side.
Non-911 BLS	Provide BLS only. Last resort. Will send facility staff (minimum one RN) during the transport to complete the infusion and care for the patient.
<p><i>List of Permitted Ground Ambulance Providers found in Schedule A of this policy. Additional guidance can be found in Santa Clara County EMS Reference 808.</i></p>	
Air Ambulance Transport	
<p>Provide ALS, administer most medications/drips, provide mechanical ventilation, and provide nursing care in accordance with the California Board of Nursing scope of practice. Policy 621: Interfacility Transfer-Air Ambulance identifies system requirements and providers.</p>	

IV. Designated Santa Clara County Stroke Centers

Stroke Center	Level of Care	Phone Number
Good Samaritan (GSH)	Comprehensive / Primary	408.559.2552
Regional-San Jose (RSJ)	Comprehensive / Primary	408.729.2841
Stanford (SUH)	Comprehensive / Primary	800.800.1551
El Camino-Mountain View (ECH)	Thrombectomy Capable / Primary	650.940.7055
El Camino-Los Gatos (LGH)	Primary	408.866.4040
Kaiser-San Jose (STH)	Primary	408.972.6140
Kaiser-Santa Clara (KSC)	Primary	408.851.1000
O'Connor (OCH)	Primary	408.947.3999
Saint Louise (SLH)	Primary	408.848.8680
Valley Medical Center (VMC)	Primary	888.880.2862