

ACCOMMODATING FAMILIES IN THE TRANSPORT SETTING

Trisha Cooke
Clinical Practice Consultant
MedSTAR Emergency Medical Retrieval Service



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WHAT I AM GOING TO DISCUSS....

- Unfold the topic
- Discuss the literature
- Highlight the considerations
- Encourage the audience

WHO ARE WE AND HOW DO WE GET THERE?

- Road – Fleet vehicles



WHO ARE WE AND HOW DO WE GET THERE?

- Road – Fleet vehicles



HOW DO WE GET THERE?

- Helicopter
 - Bell 412
 - BK117



HOW DO WE GET THERE?

- Fixed Wing
 - Pilatus PC 12
 - Lear Jet 35



WHY ARE PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS IMPORTANT IN THE RETRIEVAL SETTING?

- They are the child's security and comfort
- They can provide procedural consent
- They know their child the best



WHAT DOES THE LITERATURE SAY?

- Recommended that families should be offered **the option** of being present during clinical procedures and resuscitation

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Advanced Paediatric Life Support (APLS) 2013
Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) Guideline 10.5, July 2012

"It didn't hurt at all. You gave it to my teddy bear."



WHAT DOES THE LITERATURE SAY?

- Limited literature on the topic for transport and retrievals
- Most studies focused on the parents or family presence during resuscitation events or complex invasive procedures.



WHAT DOES THE LITERATURE SAY?

Parent Presence During Complex Invasive Procedures & Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation: A Systematic Review of the Literature

Dingeman et al, *Pediatrics* Vol 120, No 4 Oct, 2007

- Articles 1980 – 2006
- Patients less than 18 yrs
- At least 1 complex procedure
 - CVC, IA, Art Blood sampling, Chest tube placement, Thoracotomy, ECMO, Airway Management & CPR
- 15 studies in the Systematic review, mostly North American
- 10 from ED, 2 PICU & 3 mixed ED/PICU study sites



WHAT DOES THE LITERATURE SAY?

Dingeman et al, Pediatrics Vol 120, No 4 Oct, 2007

- What is the current practice?
- What behaviours do parents demonstrate?
- What are the benefits & risks to the child?
- Is there evidence to support interventions to facilitate parent presence?



WHAT DOES THE LITERATURE SAY?

Should Parents Accompany Critically Ill Children During Inter-Hospital Transport?

Davies et al, Arch Dis Child, 90, 1270-73,2005

- UK – South Thames Ambulance Retrievals
- Paediatric Only
- Dr / Nurse / Ambulance crew
- 2002 Pilot program (143 Retrievals)
- Implemented as Standard Practice
- 2004 Follow up Audit (136 Retrievals)
- Looking at the impact that parental accompaniment has on the delivery of the service.



WHAT DOES THE LITERATURE SAY?

Should Parents Accompany Critically Ill Children During Inter-Hospital Transport?

Davies et al, Arch Dis Child, 90, 1270-73,2005

- 2002 Staff Survey of 143 PICU Staff – Pre trial
 - 72% Supported concept
 - 24% Should not be unconditionally offered
- 2004 Staff Survey of 136 PICU Staff
 - Offered to Accompany in 250/279 transfers
 - Accepted in 178/250 Transfers 71%
 - Team perceived little or no added stress
 - Parents found it to be safe & beneficial
 - Staff could veto parents



WHAT ARE THE PRO'S

- Comfort child
- Foster confidence in the care provided
- Recognise the significance of the event
- Minimise separation anxiety
- Provide procedural consent + relevant history



WHAT ARE THE CON' S

- Lack of coping strategies
- Under the influence of substances
- Working within the capabilities of the transport platform
- **Inability to provide adequate support for the parent**
- Experience of the health care team
- Practical issues i.e lack of transport on receiving end

WHAT CONSIDERATIONS ARE NEEDED?

At the scene

- Staff to support family
- Do they wish to be present?
- Cultural awareness
 - interpreter
 - customs





WHAT CONSIDERATIONS ARE NEEDED?

In transport

- Safety / child securing requirements
- Separation from family / responsibility for other children
- Weight restrictions on transport platforms
- Seat availability
- Cultural sensitivities
- Travel sickness / existing illness of parent
- Claustrophobia or flying anxiety



HOW DO WE ACCOMMODATE FAMILIES?

- Acknowledge the family
- Explain the plan of care
- Offer the opportunity to be present
- CRM/TRM
- Discuss with pilots/crew
- Discuss relevant issues
- Consider additional requirements
 - cab vouchers / directions / contact numbers



TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- More research is needed
 - Australian Collaborative Study
- Opportunity to discuss and look at the development of standard approaches
 - Checklists
- Ensure you have good CRM/TRM practices

ANY QUESTIONS?



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