

Flight Transfer Parent/Carer Consent Form

Patient information

Second Name			
First Name			
Date of Birth		NHS Number	
Destination unit			

A neonatal flight team have been asked to transfer your baby to another hospital by air ambulance. This is done when it will be quicker and safer for your baby to be flown rather than transferred the whole way by road, or where road transfer is not practically possible. Road ambulances will still be used to take your baby to and from the airport at each end of the transfer.

You have been given an information leaflet explaining how flight transfers work for babies. Your medical team will explain to you why the transfer is necessary. You can ask to speak to a member of the flight team if you have any further questions.

The risks of flight and associated road journeys

Significant or frequently occurring risks that may arise include:

At high altitude the air is less dense, which leads to lower levels of oxygen entering the body. *Many babies will need additional oxygen whilst in flight, even if they are not needing oxygen on the ground. The team are fully equipped to provide this.*

At high altitude the air is less dense, which can lead to air and other normal gases expanding within the body. *We may use a nasogastric tube to remove air from the stomach. If the baby has other trapped gases that cause concern (e.g. after certain types of surgery) we may ask for the aeroplane to fly at a lower altitude.*

Noise, vibration and high g-forces (acceleration and deceleration) may be present. *We will transfer your baby in a specialist incubator or pod, ensure they are nested carefully and held in place with restraints (like seatbelts); we may give painkillers or sedatives, but this is not usually necessary unless the baby is unwell.*

The baby may deteriorate and require emergency treatment. *The team are trained in intensive care and can provide emergency resuscitation and treatment. Rarely if the facilities onboard are insufficient, the aircraft may be diverted to an alternative destination or return to the original location if this is in the best interests of the baby.*

Deterioration after the transfer. *Some babies may deteriorate in the hours following a transfer and require additional treatment. Rarely a baby may become very sick, in this case it is difficult to know whether stress from the transfer has caused them to become unwell or whether they would have become unwell whether they were transferred or not.*

There is a rare possibility of aircraft emergencies such as cabin decompression (exposure to outside air), emergency landing, or ditching (landing in water).

Cancellation and withdrawal of consent

You have the right to withdraw consent at any time. However, due to the cost and work involved cancellation for non-medical reasons may mean it is not possible to re-arrange for a later date.

Parent/carer providing consent

Second Name			
First Name		Phone	
Home address			
Relationship to the patient			
Parental responsibility	I confirm that I have parental responsibility <input type="checkbox"/>		

The risks above have been fully explained to me and I have had the opportunity to ask further questions. I understand that a flight transfer will be arranged for my child. On the day of the transfer I will be given the opportunity to speak to the transfer team and confirm my consent.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Confirmation of consent

To be completed by the flight team on the day of transfer

Any additional discussion

I have had the opportunity to meet the flight team and ask any questions I have. I understand the risks and benefits and confirm my consent for the flight transfer to proceed.

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Health Professional Signature: _____

Name: _____ **Title/Grade:** _____

Date: _____