Safer Transfer for Critical Care Patients

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Introduction

- Transportation of critical ill
- Supportive literature
- Critical Care Networks
- NoECCN
  - Merger of 2 network
  - Geographical areas of 7,000 square miles
  - Population 2.9 million
  - 9 Trust (15 hospitals CC facilities)
Categories of Transfer

- Clinical Transfer
- Non-Clinical Transfer
- Repatriation

Transfer Zones

- Each hospital has a unique zone/group
- Based on geographical boundary
- CEO informed if patient transfer out of area
Roles & Responsibilities

• Minimum of 2 attendants
• Consultant to Consultant handover
• Suitably trained team
• Documentation
• Accountability
Aims of the Transfer Group

• To standardise practice for Critical Care transfer within the North East
• To improve the quality & safety of Critical Care transfers
• To have a multi-professional approach to education & training of the practitioners involved in the transfer procedure
Guideline Development

• Terms of Reference for Transfer Group
• Multi professional team
• Standardisation of practice
• Merger of previous guidelines
  – Clear communication channels
  – Clear documentation
  – Simple ‘transfer chart’
  – Checklists (trolley/transfer bags)
  – Succinct data collection
Transfer Training

- Multiple courses in the region
- Multi professional approach
- Comprehensive programme
  - Educational
  - Practical
- Standardise the equipment used
Equipment
Audit

• NEAS monitor the number of transfers
• Developed an online audit
• Increase the information of transfers
  – Why? When? Where?
• Access by the www.noeccn.org.uk
• Responsible of the transferring team to complete the audit at the destination hospital
Governance

• Untoward incidents to be reported either:
  – Online
  – Email
  – Post

• Documentation
• Robust reporting mechanism is needed
• Focus on learning
Transfer Data

Total number of transfers within the NoECCN from 2006/2007 - 2010/2011

Year
Number of Transfers
Total Number of Transfers
Tees Valley Locality
North East Locality
Other

Number of Transfers
0
100
200
300
400
500
600
700
800
900
1000


Total Number of Transfers
Tees Valley Locality
North East Locality
Other
Safer transfers

3 strand approach:
• Robust guidelines
• Standardisation of training
• Comprehensive audit

‘All talking the same language’
Thank you for your attention
Any Questions?
Acknowledgement:
I would like to thank my colleagues from the Transfer Group (NoECCN) who I am representing today