

MOTHERS TRAVELLING IN AMBULANCES WITH INFANTS

This guideline is intended to provide guidance on when mothers (and on occasions fathers) can be allowed to travel with their infant.

Mothers cannot accompany when

1. The transfer is acute (this applies to fathers)
2. The mother is a postnatal in-patient
3. The mother is an early discharge (C/S or SVD)

The reasons behind this are:-

- medical and nursing care must be given without interruption to the infant
- In the event of an (unexpected) emergency during transfer there is little/no time to explain what is going on
- Care cannot be delivered to mother if they become unwell during transfer
- The majority of the transport team are not practicing midwives
- There is very limited space in the ambulance.

Mothers may accompany only if

1. infant is stable
2. transport nurse feels comfortable with the mother travelling
3. mother
 - has absolutely no other means of transport
 - is not recently post delivery
 - is well
4. ambulance service is informed + feels happy