



**Service Priorities and Programmes**  
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**Age-differentiated emergency transport bags to ensure the safety and efficiency of transport of paediatric patients**

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**Introduction**

Intra-hospital and inter-hospital transport of pediatric patients are common as patients have to undergo various investigations in different departments or to receive treatment from different specialties in other hospitals. Paediatric patients range from 29 days to 18 years of age. The equipments needed for transport of patients of different age groups vary significantly. Preparation of the appropriate transport equipment is time consuming. Inappropriate equipment and medical consumables might cause mortality and morbidity to the children in transport. Therefore it will be logical to prepare different emergency transport bags according to different age groups. Age-differentiated emergency transport bags program was commenced on October, 2011.

**Objectives**

1. Provide safe, efficient and time-saving intra- and inter-hospital transport. 2. Prevent any omission of important medical equipment 3. Improve patient's safety during transport. 4. Standardize the emergency transport bag in the department.

**Methodology**

The emergency transport bag is age-differentiated. It is divided according to three age groups: infants (<15kg), children (15-30kg) and young adults (>30kg). Each bag is pre-packed with different-sized intubation equipment, intravascular access device, suction tubing and tray with commonly used resuscitation drugs (pre-packed by pharmacy) according to the three age groups. In the past, pediatric nurses collected all the necessary equipment immediately before the transport. With the use of new transport bag, time is saved, and mistakes are avoided. The same age-differentiated emergency transport bag is being introduced to all the pediatric and adolescent wards, as well as the pediatric intensive care unit. The uniformity brings efficiency and decreases errors. Questionnaires concerning the use of old and new emergency transport bag are being distributed to Pediatrics and Intensive Care Unit (PICU) nurses.

**Result**

The questionnaires in 2/2012, 100% PICU nurses preferred new transport bag

compared with the old one. New questionnaires of the bag conducted one year after (2/2013) implementation. It targeted the user involved medical and nursing disciplines in general ward and PICU which total 52 of peoples. Over 98% agreed the new E-bags increased effectiveness and shorten prepare time in transportation. Conclusion: The use of age-differentiated E-Bags ensures the safety and efficiency of transport of patients. Meanwhile, time can be saved for patient care, for communication with the other departments and the receiving hospital.