

CADTH RAPID RESPONSE REPORT: SUMMARY OF ABSTRACTS

Bariatric Patient Transportation Services: Guidelines

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Research Question

What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the transportation of bariatric patients to acute care facilities?

Key Findings

No evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding the transportation of bariatric patients to acute care facilities.

Methods

Literature Search Methods

A limited literature search was conducted by an information specialist on key resources including MEDLINE, the Cochrane Library, the University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, the websites of Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused internet search. The search strategy was comprised of both controlled vocabulary, such as the National Library of Medicine's MeSH (Medical Subject Headings), and keywords. The main search concepts were transportation of patients and obesity. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2015 and August 18, 2020. Internet links were provided, where available.

Selection Criteria and Summary Methods

One reviewer screened literature search results (titles and abstracts) and selected publications according to the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1. Full texts of study publications were not reviewed. The Overall Summary of Findings was based on information available in the abstracts of selected publications. Open access full-text versions of evidence-based guidelines were reviewed when abstracts were not available, and relevant recommendations were summarized.

Table 1: Selection Criteria

Population	Bariatric patients (of all ages)
Intervention	Patient transportation services (by ground or by air) to acute care facilities
Comparator	Not applicable
Outcomes	Recommendations regarding best practices (e.g., guidance regarding any special considerations, appropriate methods of transfer, transportation protocols)
Study Designs	Evidence-based guidelines

Results

No evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding the transportation of bariatric patients to acute care facilities.

References of potential interest that did not meet the inclusion criteria are provided in the appendix.

Overall Summary of Findings

No relevant evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding the transportation of bariatric patients to acute care facilities; therefore, no summary can be provided.

References Summarized

Guidelines and Recommendations

No literature identified.

Appendix — Further Information

Clinical Practice Guidelines

Unclear Setting

1. Alberta Health Services. Guidelines for the care of hospitalized patients with bariatric care needs; 2019. <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/about/scn/ahs-scn-don-guidelines-for-hospitalized-patients-bariatric-needs.pdf> Accessed 2020 Aug 28.
See: Inter-Facility Transfers via EMS (p. 34); Equipment Needs (p. 15)
2. Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. Practice guideline: bariatric care of the adult with obesity during inpatient care and transitions in care; 2018. <https://professionals.wrha.mb.ca/old/extranet/eipt/files/EIPT-057.pdf> Accessed 2020 Aug 28.
See: Section 11.10 (p. 7); Section 12.1 (p. 7)
3. Provincial Workplace Safety and Health Working Group. Province of Manitoba safe patient handling program; 2016. <https://professionals.wrha.mb.ca/old/professionals/safety/files/SafePatientHandling/SafePatientHandling2016.pdf> Accessed 2020 Aug 28.
See: Section 1.5.11 Special Considerations for Bariatric Patients (p. 14)

Unclear Methodology

4. NSW Health Australia. Work Health and Safety - management of patients with bariatric needs; 2018. https://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDSDocuments/GL2018_012.pdf Accessed 2020 Aug 28.
See: Chapter 5: Transportation of Patients with Bariatric Needs (p. 8-9)
5. NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. NHSGGC moving and handling bariatric guidelines; 2017. <https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/media/243468/nhsggc-moving-handling-bariatric-guidelines.pdf> Accessed 2020 Aug 28.
See: Bullet Point #7 (p. 4); Appendix A: Patient Journey Flow Chart (p. 9)
6. Scotland NHS UK. Emergency Medical Retrieval Service (EMRS). Bariatric patient transfer Standard Operating Procedure; 2016. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54a40119e4b0fbd5ffb33811/t/56b84aa2b09f95462dda6565/1454918308371/Bariatric+Transfer.V3.pdf> Accessed 2020 Aug 28.
7. Queensland Ambulance Service Australia. Clinical practice guidelines: other/the bariatric patient; 2015 https://www.ambulance.qld.gov.au/docs/clinical/cpg/CPG_The%20bariatric%20patient.pdf Accessed 2020 Aug 28.
8. VHA Center for Engineering & Occupational Safety and Health (CEOSH). Bariatric safe patient handling and mobility guidebook: a resource guide for care of persons of size; 2015 <https://www.asphp.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Baraiatrice-SPHM-guidebook-care-of-Person-of-Size.pdf> Accessed 2020 Aug 28.
See: Sections 2.1.11 Stretchers and Stretcher Chairs (p. 8); 2.1.17. Doors (p. 14); 2.1.18 Flooring (p. 14); 2.3 Addressing SPHM Needs During Emergencies (p. 18); Planning for Bariatric Patients (p. 23-28)

Additional References

9. Alberta Health Services – Emergency Medical Services. Bariatric Patient Measurement Job Aid; 2019. <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/about/ems/ahs-ems-bariatric-measurement-guide.pdf> Accessed 2020 Aug 28.
10. Ornge. Bariatric patient transport protocols: a guide for health care providers; 2019 <https://www.ornge.ca/Media/Ornge/Documents/Healthcare%20Partners/Transporting%20a%20Patient/015-Ornge-Bariatric-Patient-Protocols-June-2019.pdf> Accessed 2020 Aug 28.
See: Sections C-D (p. 1); Process for Sending Facilities (p. 2)
11. AirMed. 7 major tips for bariatric patient air transport; 2018 <https://airmed.com/Blog/September-2018/7-Major-Tips-for-Bariatric-Patient-Air-Transport> Accessed 2020 Aug 28.