Patient Transport (PT) Decision Guide – Ver. 5.3

Hospital initiated patient transfers

Emergency Considerations:

Critically Ill – a patient's condition is such that there is an immediate threat to life, limb or function or the patient requires intensive monitoring, constant life support and medical interventions to correct or stabilize the patient's condition or this person's condition may potentially deteriorate during transport.

Consider Air Ambulance under the following circumstances:

1. When land transport > 2.5 hours.

2. Air would be faster than land

3. Weather considerations (e.g. road closures)

Please see Transport Medicine Utilization (TMU) Guidelines for additional details.

Non-Emergency Considerations:

Consider Air Ambulance under the following circumstances:

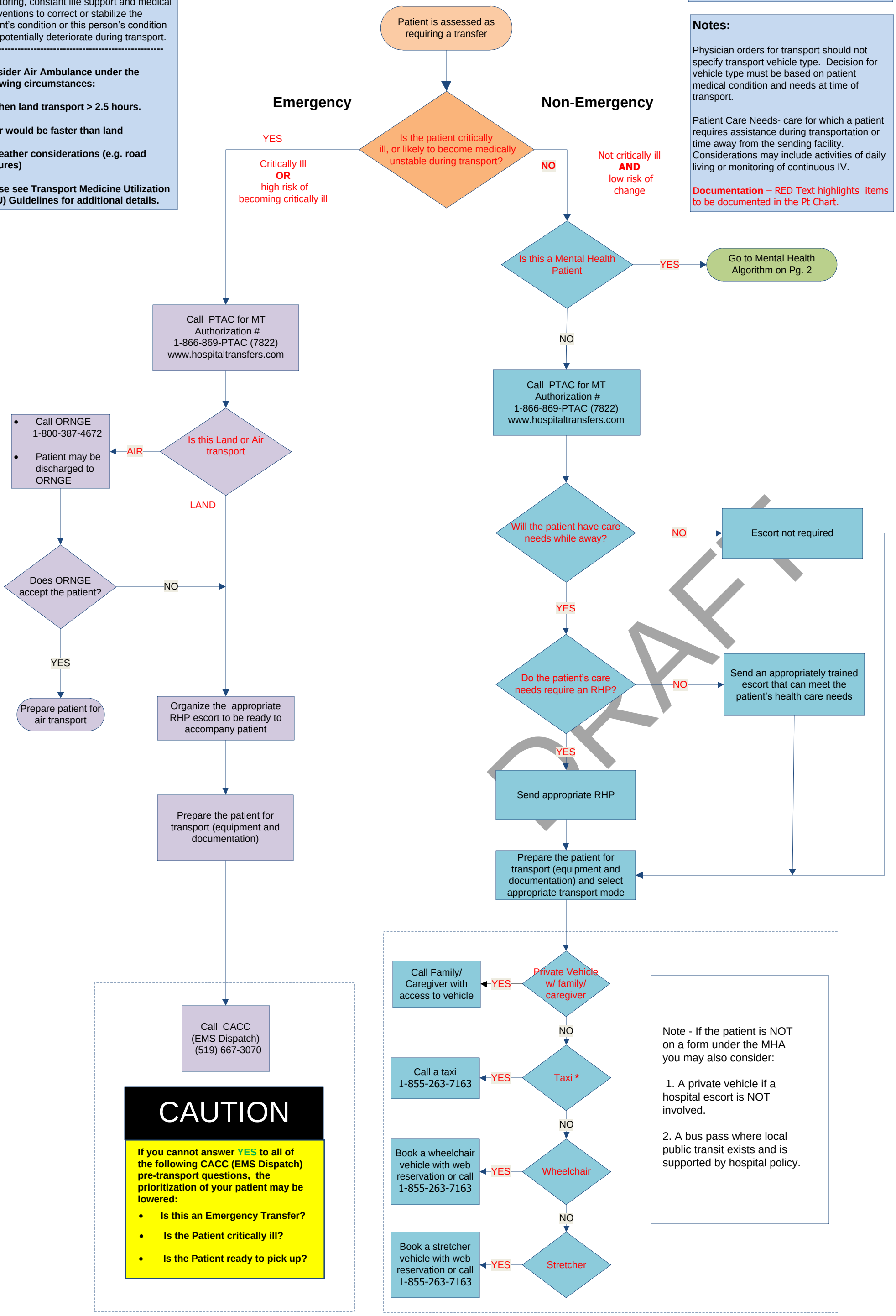
1. When land transport > 2.5 hours.

Notes:

Physician orders for transport should not specify transport vehicle type. Decision for vehicle type must be based on patient medical condition and needs at time of transport.

Patient Care Needs- care for which a patient requires assistance during transportation or time away from the sending facility. Considerations may include activities of daily living or monitoring of continuous IV.

Documentation – RED Text highlights items to be documented in the Pt Chart.



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November 30, 2016

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Mental Health (MH) Algorithm

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If mental health patient is involved

Is the patient life or limb, or likely to become medically unstable during transport?

YES → Go to the standard algorithm on Pg.1

NO → Call PTAC for MT Authorization # 1-866-869-PTAC (7822) www.hospitaltransfers.com

Is the Patient formed under the Mental Health Act (MHA)?

YES → Send an appropriate hospital or community trained MH escort with skill and judgment to meet the patient's care needs.

NO → Is the Patient able to follow direction and agreeable to provision of treatment, care and transport?

YES → Decision to send an Escort is at the discretion of the care team based on clinical assessment. Consider time duration away from hospital.

NO → Send an appropriate hospital or community trained MH escort with skill and judgment to meet the patient's care needs.

Send an appropriate hospital or community trained MH escort with skill and judgment to meet the patient's care needs.

Does the patient require additional safety precautions?

YES → Provide appropriate additional safety precaution.

Provide appropriate additional safety precaution.

Send via stretcher vehicle.

Safety Precautions
Restraints (chemical or mechanical)?
Security?
Police?
Appropriate trained hospital or community personnel?

Notes:
Decision for vehicle type must be based on patient medical condition and needs at the time of transport.

Patient Care Needs – care for which a patient requires assistance during transportation or time away from the sending facility. Considerations may include activities of daily living or monitoring of continuous IV.

Documentation – RED TEXT highlights items to be documented in the patient chart.

Select appropriate Patient Transportation

Private Vehicle w/ family/ caregiver

YES → Call Family/ Caregiver with access to vehicle

NO → Taxi¨

YES → Call a taxi 1-855-263-7163

NO → Wheelchair

YES → Call a wheelchair with web reservation or vehicle 1-855-263-7163

NO → Stretcher

YES → Call a stretcher with web reservation or vehicle 1-855-263-7163

¨ Note - If the patient is **NOT** on a form under the MHA you may also consider:

1. A private vehicle if a hospital escort is **NOT** involved.

2. A bus pass where local public transit exists and is supported by hospital policy.

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