

NSW Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Services (NETS) Charges

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Summary NETS charges, including charges for primary services and inter-hospital services.

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Author Branch Finance

Branch contact Finance 02 9391 9158

Applies to Local Health Districts, Board Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Chief Executive Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Specialty Network Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Affiliated Health Organisations, NSW Ambulance Service, Public Health Units, Public Hospitals

Audience Administrative

Distributed to Public Health System, Health Associations Unions, NSW Ambulance Service, Ministry of Health

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Policy Manual Fees

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Director-General

This Policy Directive may be varied, withdrawn or replaced at any time. Compliance with this directive is **mandatory** for NSW Health and is a condition of subsidy for public health organisations.

NSW NEWBORN AND PAEDIATRIC EMERGENCY TRANSPORT SERVICES (NETS) CHARGES

PURPOSE

This policy provides the key principles and rates for NETS charges, including Inter Hospital Charges payable by Local Health Districts (LHDs) under the Ambulance/NETS Partnership Agreement and is effective on and from **1 July 2014**.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

NETS charges as described in the attached procedures are to be applied by all LHDs from 1 July 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION

LHD Chief Executives are to ensure that the requirements of this policy directive are communicated to all appropriate staff.

Directors of Finance, Revenue Managers, Hospital Admission Staff, Patient Liaison Officers and Patient Billing Staff are responsible for the operational compliance of this policy directive and procedures.

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Approved by	Amendment notes
June 2014 (PD2014_017)	Secretary, NSW Health	Rescinds PD2013_019. Updates NETS charges as at 1 July 2014.
July 2013 (PD2013_019)	Director General	Rescinds PD2012_031. Updates NETS charges as at 1 July 2013.
June 2012 (PD2012_031)	Director General	Rescinds PD2011_035. Updates NETS charges as at 1 July 2012.
June 2011 (PD2011_035)	Director General	Rescinds PD2010_043. Updates NETS charges as at 1 July 2011.
June 2010 (PD2010_043)	Deputy Director General, Health System Support	Rescinded PD2009_038. Updated NETS charges as at 1 July 2010.
June 2009 (PD2009_038)	Deputy Director General, Health System Support	Rescinded PD2008_032. Updated NETS charges as at 1 July 2009

ATTACHMENTS

1. Nets Charges: Procedures.

**NSW Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport
Services (NETS) Charges**



Issue date: June-2014

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KEY DEFINITIONS

In this policy directive:-

- “**primary emergency service**” means the provision of NETS services by road, fixed wing aircraft or helicopter or a combination of these, from a private hospital to a public hospital or other destination nominated by NETS.
- “**primary non-emergency service**” means a NETS road service that is booked no later than 6pm on the day prior to service delivery with the service to commence and be completed between the hours of 8am and 6pm on the nominated service delivery date, otherwise the primary emergency service charge will apply.
- “**inter-hospital emergency service**” means the provision of NETS services by road, fixed wing aircraft or helicopter or a combination of these, from a public hospital to another public hospital.
- “**inter-hospital non-emergency service**” means a NETS road service that is booked no later than 6pm on the day prior to service delivery with the service to commence and be completed between the hours of 8am and 6pm on the nominated service delivery date, otherwise the inter-hospital emergency service charge will apply.

FEES

- 1 The fee for a **primary emergency service** by road and/or fixed wing service and/or helicopter shall be charged on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to paragraph 5, on the scale of \$349 callout, plus an additional charge of \$3.15 for each kilometre or part thereof, provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$5,716.
- 2 The fee for a **primary non-emergency service** by road shall be charged on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to paragraph 5, on the scale of \$275 callout, plus an additional charge of \$1.70 for each kilometre or part thereof, provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$5,716.
- 3 The fee for an **inter-hospital emergency service** by NETS shall be charged as follows:-
 - 3.1 Road service - on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to paragraph 5, on the scale of \$590 callout, plus an additional charge of \$5.89 for each kilometre or part thereof, provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$5,522.

- 3.2 Fixed wing service - on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to paragraph 5, on the scale of \$3,636 callout, plus an additional charge of \$1.70 for each kilometre or part thereof (road travel associated with fixed wing cases is charged at the \$5.89 for each kilometre or part thereof), provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$5,522.
- 3.3 Helicopter service - on a time basis calculated pursuant to paragraph 6 on the scale of \$6,242 for the first thirty (30) minutes or part thereof, with any further period charged at a rate of \$136.62 per six (6) minutes or part thereof.

Charges for road or fixed wing transport under this clause shall be paid by the hospital or health service sending the person being transported. However in the case of helicopter transport under this clause, the transport fee shall be apportioned equally between the hospital or health service sending the person being transported and the hospital or health service receiving that person.

- 4 The fee for an **inter-hospital non-emergency service** by NETS shall be charged as follows:-
 - Road ambulance - on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to paragraph 5, on the scale of \$270 callout, plus an additional charge of \$1.67 for each kilometre or part thereof, provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$5,522.

Charges under this clause shall be paid by the hospital or health service sending the person being transported.

CALCULATION OF TRANSPORT KILOMETRES

- 5 The total number of kilometres the provision of NETS services shall be calculated by determining the total number of kilometres that are travelled by road or, in the case of transportation by fixed wing aircraft or helicopter that would have been travelled by road had no fixed wing aircraft or helicopter been available, in accordance with the distance:
 - 5.1 From the NETS base nearest to the location where the patient was picked up or treated by the NETS service; and
 - 5.2 From that pick up location (where transport occurs), to the place where that patient disembarked from the NETS transport; and
 - 5.3 From that place of disembarkation (or where no transport occurs, from the treatment location), back to the NETS base referred to in subparagraph 5.1.

CALCULATION OF TRANSPORT TIME FOR HELICOPTERS (INTER-HOSPITAL ONLY)

- 6 The number of minutes for a NETS service by helicopter (other than a primary response service) shall be calculated from the time the helicopter engine or engines are turned on, or, if the engines are already on, the time at which the helicopter is dispatched by an air ambulance controller, to the time the helicopter engine or engines are turned off at the helicopter’s operational base, or the time at which the helicopter is otherwise dispatched by an air ambulance controller or other authority.

CHARGING CRITERIA

- 7 Where two or more persons are transported/treated concurrently by the same NETS service, each person shall be charged a fee calculated in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2.as appropriate to that transport.
- 8 Paragraph 7 shall not apply when two or more patients are transferred concurrently by a NETS service between any public hospital in New South Wales.
- 9 Budget supplementation is **not** available to fund any increased costs resulting from this policy directive with such costs to be met from within existing allocations.
- 10 The above rates are applicable in relation to NETS services provided to NSW Public Hospitals (Inter-hospital) and NSW Private Hospitals (Primary).
- 11 Residents of other States or Territories, which are not a party to a Reciprocal Rights Agreement as to ambulance/NETS services (currently Queensland and South Australia do not have an agreement), shall be charged full cost recovery as follows:-

Primary	Road		Fixed Wing Emergency	Helicopter Emergency
	Emergency	Non Emergency		
	\$'s	\$'s	\$'s	\$'s
Call-Out	683	275	683	683
Variable Rate	6.17	1.70	6.17	6.17
Max.Charge	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

- 12 NETS Services are deemed to be a taxable supply (subject to GST) and accordingly the rates advised in this policy directive are to be grossed-up in accordance with Treasury Circular No.00/06.