



40-42 Friars Walk  
Lewes  
East Sussex  
BN7 2XW

Tel: 0300 123 0999

Email: [foi@secamb.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@secamb.nhs.uk)

4<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/16/04/08.

You requested the following information:

**I am a vascular specialist nurse working at Frimley Park Hospital, and I have been asked to get a copy of the emergency transfer of patients by blue light ambulance protocol for Surrey. As Frimley Park Hospital are the vascular hub for the area we need this information for our records as evidence of the procedures in place for an inspection by the Department of Health. I am trying to get the information regarding the framework for transfers of patients with vascular emergencies, ie ruptured aneurysm.**

We no longer have an emergency transfer of patients by blue light ambulance protocol for Surrey as this was superseded by new commissioning arrangements.

To triage a inter hospital transfer request we initially use NHSPathways and ask:

- If they are conscious and breathing
- What their professional registration is or if they are calling on behalf of a registered professional
- If this is an inter-hospital transfer request

At this point we then follow the attached flow chart to ensure we are commissioned for the transfer. Assuming we are commissioned then we carry on with NHSPathways assessment and ask:

- If the transfer is because of an immediate clinical need or a management issue

If due to clinical need we ask if it is:

- Leaking aortic aneurism, emergency coronary intervention, emergency stroke intervention, obstetric emergency or other.

All of the above default to Red 2 response as described below.

Any management issues default to the question being asked about the appropriate timeframe for pick up of the patient which the lead clinician chooses.

We would then close the call by taking the patient details and destination hospital.

It is likely in all vascular cases that there would be clinical need and therefore a Red 2 disposition would be likely.

I hope you find this information helpful.

If, for whatever reason you are unhappy with our response, you are entitled to pursue any dissatisfaction through South East Coast Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust's (SECamb) Internal Review Procedure at:

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust  
40-42 Friars Walk  
Lewes  
East Sussex  
BN7 2XW  
Email: [complaints@secamb.nhs.uk](mailto:complaints@secamb.nhs.uk)

Should you remain unhappy with the outcome of any such internal review , you may request a decision from the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Coordinator  
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust