



10 Steps To Successful Resident Transportation

A GUIDE FOR NURSING HOMES
& AMBULETTE PERSONNEL



1 | Have A Game Plan

It's best to have a strategic plan in place before you begin moving a patient. Nail down ahead of time where you're starting and where you're headed, and check your route. If there are any obstacles in the way, deal with them beforehand, rather than try to maneuver your way around them mid-transport, risking injury to either yourself or the patient. Important questions to ask yourself include: Are there any obstructions? Are there spaces too narrow for a standard wheelchair?

While in transit, it's important to be as efficient as possible in order to guarantee the patient's safety and comfort. Finally, once the patient is ready for discharge and transport, make sure that the receiving department prepares the end point ahead of time.

2 | Bring The Right Equipment For Yourself

Different tasks require different levels of preparedness, so remember to come job-ready. You can improve your personal safety with optional gear such as a back brace, wrist guards, etc. Critical gear includes any applicable PPE (personal protection equipment) such as nitrile gloves, an isolation gown, face shield, and an approved N-95 mask or an equivalent.



3 | Bring The Right Equipment For The Patient

Be sure to always have the right equipment on hand any time you plan on moving a patient from one location to another. A pre-made checklist is a great way to make sure that you don't forget essential items, such as a gait belt (which is meant to assist a patient in keeping their balance), a wheelchair, or any necessary lifting equipment, like a Mobile Stairlift.



4 | Before Entering The Patient's Room, Perform Necessary Sterilizations

Once you have your PPE on and are ready to move into the patient's room, be sure to double check everything that needs to be sanitized. Have the right sanitization products on hand, and use them to clean your hands as often as possible, and to thoroughly spray sterilize any equipment, such as a wheelchair or a Mobile Stairlift.



5 | Be Aware Of The Patient's Needs

It's important to be aware of any potential issues that could arise during transport due to the patient's condition. Check with the patient before moving them. For example, make sure you're using nitrile gloves instead of latex, in case the patient suffers from a latex allergy. By taking a few minutes to chat with the patient, you'll be able to understand how your game plan needs to be adjusted to suit the patient's needs.



6 | Make Sure The Patient Has Taken Necessary Sanitization and Protective Steps

Use proper hand sanitization procedures with the patient before they leave the room. Whether that's washing hands or using a hand sanitizer product, you want to take every necessary precaution. This includes confirming that the patient's mask has been placed properly on their face, covering the nose and mouth.



7 | Take Your Time

Once you meet the patient, keep them at ease by going through the process at their speed. Figure out what makes the patient feel the most comfortable, and they will feel taken care of and know that their needs are being heard. As you move along your route, sanitize the patient's hands after touching doors, railings, walls, and so forth.



8 | Make Sure The Patient Is Comfortable

The easiest way to ensure a patient's comfortable transport from one room to another is by checking in with them multiples times throughout the journey. Just asking a patient how they are doing often alleviates any anxiety a patient may be experiencing during transportation.



9 | Don't Be Afraid To Ask For Help

If you need help, do not hesitate to ask your colleagues to assist in the safe passage of a disabled patient. Others can be enlisted to help open doors and clear the pathway that will be taken.





10 | Confirm The Patient Is Properly Received

Verify that the patient is where they are supposed to be when they arrive and that proper documentation has been processed. Lastly, sanitize all equipment post transport, and be sure to switch out all PPE.



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