

PSYCHIATRIC INTER-FACILITY TRANSPORT EXCHANGE

1. Level: EMT, AEMT, Paramedic, RN
2. Purpose: LaSalle Ambulance Service, Inc. strives to ensure the safety of our patients and crewmembers during transport. Inter-facility transports of psychiatric patients can take several hours to get to the destination and in many cases results in our crews getting off hours late, which can contribute to fatigue. The **PSYCHIATRIC INTERFACILITY TRANSPORT EXCHANGE procedure** increases the margin of safety for both our patient and our crew for psychiatric transports of three or more hours that would otherwise result in the crew getting off three or more hours late.
3. Indications: (All must be present)
 - 3.1. Inter-facility transport
 - 3.2. Psychiatric patient
 - 3.3. BLS-Status 4
 - 3.4. Transport time will be 3 hours or more to destination
 - 3.5. Completion of the transport will result in the crew getting off 3 hours or more later than their scheduled end of shift time
4. Procedure: This procedure should be used in conjunction with the [**PSYCHIATRIC TRANSPORT procedure**](#)
 - 4.1. **At Sending Facility:**
 - 4.1.1. Upon arrival at the sending facility, the crew will report to the nurses' station to obtain any paperwork and/or diagnostic test that need to accompany the patient. The crew will evaluate the patient and prepare the patient for transport.
 - 4.1.1.1. In the event in which it is identified that the patient is not a status 4 or otherwise not a candidate for the Psychiatric Inter-facility Transport Exchange procedure, contact the communications center and inform the dispatcher.
 - 4.1.2. For transports expected to be greater than 30 minutes, it is recommended that the crew and patient go the restroom prior to departing to prevent any unscheduled stops
 - 4.2. **En route:**
 - 4.2.1. Monitor and treat the patient as outlined in The *Green Book* protocols
 - 4.2.2. Receive information from the communications center regarding exchange point
 - 4.3. **At Exchange location:**
 - 4.3.1. The driver will ensure that the exchange point is at an LaSalle station or a hospital.
 - 4.3.2. Medic caring for the patient will hand-off the paperwork and any patient belongings to the crew that will be completing transport.
 - 4.3.3. The medic will provide a brief verbal patient care report to the medic that will be completing the transport and will include:
 - 4.3.3.1. Diagnosis
 - 4.3.3.2. Any issues identified en route
 - 4.3.3.3. Most recent set of vital signs
 - 4.3.4. Move the patient via stretcher to the new crew's unit so they can complete transport. It is critical to ensure that the patient is moved to the second unit via the stretcher and not moved to their stretcher.

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4.4. Documentation:

- 4.4.1. The medic caring will create an ePCR for the patient on the initial portion of the transport using the run disposition “treated/transported.”
- 4.4.2. The medic caring will create an ePCR for the patient on the final portion of the transport using the run disposition “treated/transported.”