



In the event of a delay in handing over your patient at the receiving facility, clinicians must follow the local processes in place with regards to arrival notification and escalations. Where, under exceptional circumstances, it is necessary for the patient to remain in the ambulance whilst awaiting hospital handover, the following IPC precautions should be considered as good practice and adopted where reasonably practical.

Hand hygiene plays a vital role in minimising the risk of cross-contamination. When handwashing facilities are not available, hand wipes should be used as an alternative. If hands are visibly clean, an alcohol-based hand rub is recommended to maintain hand hygiene.

A dynamic risk assessment should be carried out to determine the transmission risk and determine IPC precautions.

Unless advised otherwise by your local Infection Prevention and Control team, Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs) are sufficient when providing patient care during handover delays. Additional personal protective equipment (PPE) and further IPC measures are not required. Where the patient has known or suspected infection, Transmission Based Precautions (TBPs) must be implemented this includes appropriate PPE selection.

This should be based upon the individual's dynamic risk assessment, with consideration of the transmission route and PPE guidance.



REMEMBER: As a member of the NHS you are a role model in your community. Please behave responsibly in applying Infection, Prevention & Control measures.
AT ALL TIMES to protect yourself - in doing so you protect your patients, your colleagues, your loved ones and all those you meet.