



# Children's Acute Transport Service



## CATS SAR Aeromedical Assistance

### Document Control Information

Author	Lutman	Author Position	Head of Clinical Service
Document Owner	Polke	Document Owner Position	CATS Co-ordinator
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Applicable to	All CATS staff		

## Scope

This guideline covers the operational aspects of an aeromedical transfer by the Search and Rescue platform (Bristow Helicopters).

## Planning

- 1) Two way: outbound and return transfers by helicopter.
- 2) One way: outbound or return leg by helicopter only.

The ETA of the helicopter to rendezvous with the CATS team at each end will determine the likely method.

## Request

As per CATS consultant instructions fax and telephone the request to the ARCC.

Invoicing to: Children's Acute Transport Service, Finance Department, Great Ormond Street NHS Trust, London, WC1N 3JH.

## Normal operations

- Do not approach the rear of any helicopter at any stage.
- CATS vehicle will position adjacent to the landing site, doors closed to avoid debris from downdraft and with blue lights flashing.
- Monitor the ground-air radio channel.
- Anticipate loading/unloading with rotors running.
- Check adequate clearance below rotor disk if the ground is sloping.

### ***A positive indication from the aircrew must be received before approaching the aircraft.***

- The CATS ambulance will position to facilitate loading/unloading at a point just clear of the rotor disc opposite the main door (R side of helicopter).
- Do not allow loose items to enter the rotor disc area.
- The Winchman will secure the CATS kit.
- The CATS team will apply seatbelts, headsets and await instructions.

## Layout (Review training video)

- Aerosled/Clipdeck is centrally placed and secured by the winchman.
- Stretcher oxygen will be conserved for loading/unloading.
- Communication using the headsets needs to be concise and clear.
- For takeoff, landing and in an emergency all headsets are 'conferenced' together. At other times the medical team and winchman may be on a private circuit.

## Abnormal operations

Is classified as an unplanned diversion/landing:

- Co-ordination will be via ARCC and the CATS office.
- The CATS team must have a situational awareness of the endurance of inotropes / nitric / oxygen supplies as well as a clear understanding of the needs of the child so that a contingency can be established swiftly.

**Notes:** See also

Bristow familiarisation video

CATS aero medical transfer SOP

CATS aero medical Nitric Oxide SOP

CATS aero medical algorithm SOP

CATS SOPS 001 presentation