

NSW Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Services (NETS) Charges

Summary This Policy Directive advises the rates for NETS charges effective from 1 July 2017.

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Applies to Affiliated Health Organisations, Board Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Chief Executive Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Local Health Districts, NSW Ambulance Service, Public Health System Support Division, Public Health Units, Public Hospitals, Specialty Network Governed Statutory Health Corporations

Distributed to Health Associations Unions, Ministry of Health, NSW Ambulance Service, Public Health System

Audience Administrative

Secretary, NSW Health

This Policy Directive may be varied, withdrawn or replaced at any time. Compliance with this directive is mandatory for NSW Health and is a condition of subsidy for public health organisations.

NSW NEWBORN AND PAEDIATRIC EMERGENCY TRANSPORT SERVICES (NETS) CHARGES

PURPOSE

This Policy Directive provides the key principles and rates for NETS charges, including Inter Hospital Charges payable by Local Health Districts (LHDs) under the Ambulance / NETS Partnership Agreement and is effective on and from 1 July 2017.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

NETS charges as described in the attached procedures are to be applied by all LHDs from 1 July 2017.

IMPLEMENTATION

LHD Chief Executives are to ensure that the requirements of this policy directive are communicated to all appropriate staff.

Directors of Finance, Revenue Managers, Hospital Admission Staff, Patient Liaison Officers and Patient Billing Staff are responsible for the operational compliance of this Policy Directive and Procedures.

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Approved by	Amendment notes
June 2017 (PD2017_016)	Secretary, NSW Health	Rescinds PD2016_020. Updates NETS charges as at 1 July 2017.
June 2016 (PD2016_020)	Secretary, NSW Health	Rescinds PD2015_015. Updates NETS charges as at 1 July 2016.
May 2015 (PD2015_015)	Secretary, NSW Health	Rescinded PD2014_017. Updated NETS charges as at 1 July 2015.
June 2014 (PD2014_017)	Secretary, NSW Health	Rescinds PD2013_019. Updated NETS charges as at 1 July 2014.
July 2013 (PD2013_019)	Director- General	Rescinds PD2012_031. Updates NETS charges as at 1 July 2013.
June 2012 (PD2012_031)	Director- General	Rescinds PD2011_035. Updates NETS charges as at 1 July 2012.
June 2011 (PD2011_035)	Director- General	Rescinds PD2010_043. Updates NETS charges as at 1 July 2011.
June 2010 (PD2010_043)	Deputy Director- General Health System Support	Rescinded PD2009_038. Updated NETS charges as at 1 July 2010.
June 2009 (PD2009_038)	Deputy Director- General Health System Support	Rescinded PD2008_032. Updated NETS charges as at 1 July 2009

ATTACHMENT

1. Nets Charges: Procedures.

Rescinded

NSW Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Services (NETS) Charges



Issue date: June-2017
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1 BACKGROUND

1.1 About this document

This Policy Directive provides the key principles and rates for NETS charges, including Inter Hospital Charges payable by Local Health Districts (LHDs) under the Ambulance / NETS Partnership Agreement and is effective on and from 1 July 2017.

1.2 Key definitions

In this Policy Directive:

- **“Primary emergency service”** means the provision of NETS services by road, fixed wing aircraft or helicopter or a combination of these, from a private hospital to a public hospital or other destination nominated by NETS.
- **“Primary non-emergency service”** means a NETS road service that is booked no later than 6pm on the day prior to service delivery with the service to commence and be completed between the hours of 8am and 6pm on the nominated service delivery date, otherwise the primary emergency service charge will apply.
- **“Inter-hospital emergency service”** means the provision of NETS services by road, fixed wing aircraft or helicopter or a combination of these, from a public hospital to another public hospital.
- **“Inter-hospital non-emergency service”** means a NETS road service that is booked no later than 6pm on the day prior to service delivery with the service to commence and be completed between the hours of 8am and 6pm on the nominated service delivery date, otherwise the inter-hospital emergency service charge will apply.

1.3 Legal and legislative framework

The advised fees are gazetted by order pursuant to section 69 of the *Health Services Act 1997*.

2 FEES

2.1 Primary emergency service

The fee by road and / or fixed wing service and / or helicopter shall be charged on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to section 3, on the scale of \$372 callout, plus an additional charge of \$3.35 for each kilometre or part thereof, provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$6,095.

2.2 Primary non-emergency service

The fee by road shall be charged on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to section 3, on the scale of \$293 callout, plus an additional charge of \$1.81 for each kilometre or part thereof, provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$6,095.

2.3 Inter-hospital emergency service by NETS

The fees shall be charged as follows:

- Road service - on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to section 3, on the scale of \$629 callout, plus an additional charge of \$6.28 for each kilometre or part thereof, provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$5,888.
- Fixed wing service - on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to section 3, on the scale of \$3,878 callout, plus an additional charge of \$1.81 for each kilometre or part thereof (road travel associated with fixed wing cases is charged at the \$6.27 for each kilometre or part thereof), provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$5,888.
- Helicopter service - on a time basis calculated pursuant to section 4 on the scale of \$6,657 for the first thirty (30) minutes or part thereof, with any further period charged at a rate of \$145.70 per six (6) minutes or part thereof. Charges for road or fixed wing transport under this sub-section shall be paid by the hospital or health service sending the person being transported. However in the case of helicopter transport under this sub-section, the transport fee shall be apportioned equally between the hospital or health service sending the person being transported and the hospital or health service receiving that person.

2.4 Inter-hospital non-emergency service by NETS

The fee shall be charged as follows:

- Road ambulance - on a kilometre basis calculated pursuant to section 3, on the scale of \$288 callout, plus an additional charge of \$1.78 for each kilometre or part thereof, provided that such total fee shall not exceed \$5,888. Charges under this sub-section shall be paid by the hospital or health service sending the person being transported.

3 CALCULATION OF TRANSPORT KILOMETRES

The total number of kilometres for the provision of NETS services shall be calculated by determining the total number of kilometres that are travelled by road or, in the case of transportation by fixed wing aircraft or helicopter that would have been travelled by road had no fixed wing aircraft or helicopter been available, in accordance with the distance:

- From the NETS base nearest to the location where the patient was picked up or treated by the NETS service and
- From that pick up location (where transport occurs), to the place where that patient disembarked from the NETS transport and
- From that place of disembarkation (or where no transport occurs from the treatment location), back to the NETS base referred to in the first dot point of this section.

4 CALCULATION OF TRANSPORT TIME FOR HELICOPTERS (INTER-HOSPITAL ONLY)

The number of minutes for a NETS service by helicopter (other than a primary response service) shall be calculated from the time the helicopter engine or engines are turned on, or, if the engines are already on, the time at which the helicopter is dispatched by an air ambulance controller, to the time the helicopter engine or engines are turned off at the helicopter's operational base, or the time at which the helicopter is otherwise dispatched by an air ambulance controller or other authority.

5 CHARGING CRITERIA

- Where two or more persons are transported / treated concurrently by the same NETS service, each person shall be charged a fee calculated in accordance with sub-sections 2.1 and 2.2 as appropriate to that transport.
- The dot point immediately above shall not apply when two or more patients are transferred concurrently by a NETS service between any public hospital in New South Wales.
- Budget supplementation is not available to fund any increased costs resulting from this policy directive with such costs to be met from within existing allocations.
- The above rates are applicable in relation to NETS services provided to NSW Public Hospitals (Inter-hospital) and NSW Private Hospitals (Primary).
- Residents of other States or Territories, which are not a party to a Reciprocal Rights Agreement as to ambulance / NETS services (currently Queensland and South Australia do not have an agreement), shall be charged full cost recovery as follows:

Primary	Road		Fixed Wing Emergency	Helicopter Emergency
	Emergency	Non Emergency		
	\$'s	\$'s	\$'s	\$'s
Call-Out	729	293	729	729
Variable Rate	6.58	1.81	6.58	6.58
Max.Charge	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

6 GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

NETS Services are a taxable supply (subject to GST) and accordingly GST must be added to the rates advised in this policy directive.

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