Landing zone

Day: 30m x 30m Night: 50m x 50m

- Note all nearby poles, signs, trees and other obstructions.
- Avoid telephone, power and other high-lying lines.
- Ensure a proper inspection above the LZ for wires, especially at night.
- Avoid dust landings as far as possible, pilots will divert to a nearby suitable LZ to avoid dust landings.
- Smoke grenades can be used to show position and wind direction. Avoid use of flares.
- At night, LZ can be lit with vehicle headlights but please ensure vehicles don't obstruct landing space.
- Please turn down bright lights before landing takes place.
- Remove all loose articles on the scene (road cones, etc.)
- Safety on scene includes keeping all people, bystanders, road crews etc. far from the LZ.
- Ensure flat landing zone with minimal slope.
- Consult with flight desk for beach landing zones for coastal areas.



Helicopter safety



Always approach and leave the helicopter in crouched position in view of the pilot.



Never come near the helicopter with anything higher than your head (IV poles). Do not have loose objects around the moving helicopter (linens, hats, etc.)

Flight Desk direct number: 010 209 8555

Flight Desk instant messaging: 081 367 1221





Netcare 911 helicopter safety guidelines





Providing YOU with the best and safest care.



Flight request requirements:

You may be asked to supply the following information:

- ID Number and/or confirmation of type of cover (medical aid/private/WCA etc.)
- Weight
- Provisional diagnosis and latest set of vital signs
- Reason for HEMS request
- Details of potential landing zone
- Closest hospital as a point of reference
- To identify treating practitioner
- For IHTs, indicate whether receiving doctor has been confirmed.
- For cardiac cases, send ECG to Flight desk instant messaging and confirm if the patient is going to a catheterisation laboratory.

Patient size restrictions



Ask yourself:

- Will the helicopter save time?
- Will helicopter transport prevent further harm?
- Are helicopter crews' expertise required on scene?
- Is the specialised helicopter equipment required on the scene?



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Note:

· Flight requests for provincial patients in Free State, KZN and Mpumalanga must be done via their respective call centre

Head injury

A GCS of no less than 5 and no more than 12 with or without focal neurological deficit

Thrombotic CVA/stroke

Where road transfer time to an appropriate facility is in excess of 60 minutes

Despite supplemental oxygenation, where advanced (RSI/ECP) airway management or mechanical ventilator

With neurological deficit and/or haemodynamic compromise

Signs and symptoms indicate spinal injury

safe ground transportation

Amputations

Where road transport time is long or terrain prevents safe ground transportation and/or above the knee/elbow amputations with significant vascular compromise

Penetrating injury

Severe penetrating injury to the head, neck, thorax, and/or abdomen with possible involvement of underlying organs or vascular structures



cath lab facility is in excess of 30 minutes Unstable arrhythmia (ECG rhythm) urgent upgrade

To an appropriate facility where no such facility is available within a reasonable distance or in excess of 30 minutes

Initial systolic blood pressure of less than 80mmHg or in excess of 200mmHg despite initial compensatory attempts

Complicated pregnancy

Blood pressure

Where specialised care or surgical intervention is

Imminent eclampsia

Neonatal emergencies

Requiring urgent upgrade in care to a neonatal ICU or neonatologist

Burns in adults

With 20-80% BSA or burns to the face, neck and chest with airway compromise

Burns in children With 10% BSA or burns to the face, neck and chest with airway compromise

Life threatening medical conditions

That require urgent intervention not available at a local facility



Any other medical condition

Where the expertise of the crew is required









Drowning

Where road transport time is long or terrain prevents



Refractory Anaphylaxis

Hypothermia <35°c or hyperthermia >40°c Unstable patients requiring advanced intervention



With unstable arrythmia or neurological deficit

Unstable myocardial infarction Specifically where road transfer time to appropriate

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required and not accessible at a local facility

