

Guidance for transport requirements as used by the NHS Lothian Flow Centre.

## May be suitable for own transport or Volunteer Driver Car

**Independent** Patients who need no assistance. Can mobilise without any aids.  
Patients who mobilise with aids i.e. walking sticks independently. These patients can walk short distances and manage to climb steps/stairs.

## May be suitable for Flow Centre Vehicle

**1 man chair plus assistance** As detailed above but need very minimal assistance. Able to climb steps into Flow Centre vehicle (minibus).

## May be suitable for Flow Centre Vehicle in wheelchair

**2 man chair** Patients who need 2 staff to transfer from chair to chair. Who mobilise with aids e.g. walking frame. Patients that require hoisting, are suitable for the bus if they can sit in a wheelchair for the journey.

## Patient Transport Service Ambulance

**2 man chair Plus assistance** Needs full assistance to transfer, mobilise, climb stairs i.e. balance and support. Also, patients who require O2 therapy to travel.

**2 man chair + carry** Needs full assistance to transfer, mobilise but cannot climb stairs with support. **\*for this it is vital to know the exact number of steps and exact weight of patient\***

**2 man stretcher** Patients who cannot weightbear, have no sitting balance, medically unwell/unsuitable for chair. **\*this cannot go upstairs as it is a rigid stretcher, different to those used in A&E\***

**Stretcher + carry** SCOOP STRETCHER. As above. More flexible option as this can be carried upstairs. **\*it is vital to know the exact number of steps and weight of patient to enable decision if a 2-man crew or 4-man crew\***

**Stretcher + carry** Stair Climber. As above. This is a mechanical aid which attaches to the stairs and climbs each step. **\*it is vital to know the exact number of steps and weight of patient to enable decision if a 2-man crew or 4-man crew\***

**Bariatric Patients** This is a specific vehicle/stretcher and must be booked 48 hours in advance. Exact weight and stair practice if appropriate. If patient above 25st, Flow Centre must be advised as soon to admission as possible.

**Out of Area journeys** Minimum 48 hours' notice required.