

**Yorkshire & Humber Infant and Children's Transport Service
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20 November 2009

Dear Colleague

**Re: The Launch of Embrace
Yorkshire & Humber Infant and Children's Transport Service
Tuesday 8th December 2009 at 09:00**

The first phase of Embrace the new Yorkshire & Humber Infant and Children's Transport Service will be launched on Tuesday 8th December 2009 at 09:00.

Embrace has been designed to provide neonatal and paediatric transfers for Yorkshire and the Humber. In addition it will be functioning as a perinatal and paediatric bed/cot bureau. Between now and April 2010 there will be a phased implementation of services.

As a key link with existing services we would be grateful of your help in cascading information about Embrace and the developments of the service over the coming months to your colleagues. Keeping clinicians well informed is essential to the success of the service and we value your partnership in continuing to provide the best care to sick children and newborns.

We trust that the following paragraphs will give you a better understanding of the three aspects of the service.

Paediatric retrieval request: Children who are critically ill and require intensive care should be referred to Embrace. The telephone will be answered by a call handler, who will take basic demographic details and confirm the provisional diagnosis. Early in the process an Embrace doctor or senior nurse will join the call. Based on your preference, the clinical problem and known bed availability your call will be conferenced to the on-call consultant at one of the regional PICU's who will discuss and agree a management plan with you. Other specialists can be bought into the conference call to help resolve clinical issues. When required a transport team will be dispatched to your unit. The established transport services in Leeds and Sheffield and the new Embrace service will be working together to provide an appropriate team and ambulance.

Perinatal referrals: Embrace will have up to date information on the availability of maternal beds and neonatal cots. If you are looking after a mother who requires a possible in-utero transfer then please ring Embrace. The telephone will be answered by a call handler who will inform you of the nearest bed/cot. Suitability for in-utero transfer is described in the BAPM document, "Management of acute in-utero transfers: a framework for practice" (www.bapm.org). At any point in the process the call conferencing facilities at Embrace can be used to facilitate discussions between consultants and other specialists to optimise the clinical care of the mother and baby. Organisation of the in-utero transfer remains the responsibility of the referring obstetric team.

Neonatal transfer request: Embrace will have up to date information on the availability of neonatal cots. If you are looking after a baby who requires transfer then please ring Embrace. The telephone will be answered by a call handler, who will take basic demographic details and confirm the provisional diagnosis. We will take your contact details and call you back later in the process. The Embrace team will identify a suitable cot and transport plan based on your preference, the clinical problem and known bed availability. You will be called back and conferenced with the proposed destination unit and transport team for confirmation of details and a clinical discussion. At any point in the process the call conferencing facilities at Embrace can be used to facilitate discussions between consultants and other specialists to optimise the clinical care of the baby.

Direct calls between clinicians to discuss a case or for advice can be made in the normal way at any time. We would ask that patients who require transfer be re-directed back through Embrace.

This is the first stage of the new service. As such we would appreciate your feedback and suggestions for future development.

Yours faithfully

Claire Harness
Lead Nurse, Embrace Transport Service

Dr Cath Harrison
NIC Consultant, Embrace Transport Service

Dr Steve Hancock
PIC Consultant, Embrace Transport Service