



19 October 2016

Dear Colleague:

Despite the continuing worldwide growth in the provision of high acuity air and ground medical transport, there has been no consensus definition and agreed upon, patient centric critical care transport (CCT) practice standard. The need for a common understanding of high acuity, critical care transport and the development of acceptable practice standard is imperative for patients and referring/receiving providers. To address this gap, the Association of Critical Care Transport (ACCT) has developed a set of clinical standards for interfacility CCT regardless of transport modality.

In 2012, ACCT initiated an extensive, iterative process to work through all the elements of CCT. ACCT committed itself to the development of effective standards, focused on providing the highest quality of care to patients needing CCT. This first set of proposed standards is the product of years of tireless work by numerous industry professionals and organizations. Recognizing that patients deserve quality, consistency, and reliability, regardless of location, these standards seek a balance between what exists today and what needs to exist in the medical transport system of the future.

Without question, developing new standards and establishing a definition for CCT has been a complicated endeavor and is not without implications for individual providers and agencies. The need to assure patients and their providers through consistent, reliable, and known standards of care during transport, however, is an overwhelming and increasing need within the healthcare system. This is especially true for the most critically ill and injured patients.

ACCT's intention for these standards is to inform CCT providers, communities, system regulators, referring providers, payers, insurers, and accreditation agencies. Most importantly, we believe these standards will improve the care and outcomes of patients requiring CCT. We recognize this is a dynamic process and we pledge our continued participation in creating a better patient care system. ACCT looks forward to dialogue with the medical transport enterprise as we further strengthen and develop the standards.* In addition, ACCT is currently in the process of developing two additional standards sections: Medical Oversight and Quality Metrics.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roxanne Shanks".

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank W. Erdman".

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Judge".

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