

# Safe Pediatric Transports

## Guideline #1

Use restraint systems designed for pediatric ambulance transport, or if not available, use convertible child safety seats designed for automotive transport for children weighing up to at least 40 pounds. *(Note: NC EMS and Trauma Rules for 2009 require availability of a pediatric transport restraint device for children up to 40 lbs. revised from 20 lbs.)*

## Guideline #1A

If using a convertible child safety seat:

For children weighing less than 40 lbs., install it rear facing on the gurney with the backrest raised to a 45-degree angle. (Follow manufacturer's guidelines for rear facing weight limit.) The child safety seat must be secured to the gurney with straps routed through 2 belt paths as pictured below.



## Helpful Tip

Refer to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) web site for ease of use ratings for child safety seats to make informed decisions on purchases at [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).



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## Guideline #2 - Patients Over 40 lbs

For pediatric patients weighing over 40 lbs, use a transport restraint device designed to be used rear facing for children weighing over 40 lbs, if available. Install it rear facing on the gurney with backrest raised to a 45° angle as pictured below. Follow manufacturer's guidelines for weight limits.



If such a device is not available, secure the pediatric patient to the gurney as you would an adult.

## Guideline #3 - Using the Captain's Chair

If the gurney is being used for another patient and you need to transport a sick or injured child that you've determined can be transported in a sitting position, you may secure the child to the Captain's Chair in a convertible child safety seat if the child weighs less than 40 lbs. Check manufacturer's guidelines for weight limit.

**IMPORTANT:** The Captain's Chair must be stationary/not able to swivel!

If the Captain's Chair has an integrated child safety seat, you may secure the child following manufacturer's guidelines.

When replacing the Captain's Chair, consider one that has an integrated child safety seat and that can be secured to be stationary/not able to swivel.

