

Michelle Stirling, Dr Mardi Steere
RFDS Federation Collaboration



Royal Flying Doctor Service

Cross-Industry Collaboration in Aeromedical Care

Developing the International Standard
for Transport of Infectious Patients

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Pandemic Challenges in Transporting Infectious Patients



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- Inconsistency in guidelines and practice worldwide
- Literature focused on larger military or civilian aircraft
- Focus on high level isolation units
- Real world experience is smaller air ambulance aircraft



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Standardising the Guidelines

Transporting Patients with Highly infectious Diseases





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ED-317 Guidance Document for Aeromedical Transport of Patients with Highly Infectious Diseases

EUROCAE 2023

Application and Impacts



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- Adapting our rotary wing COVID retrieval policy to include other highly infectious diseases
- Revising our transport of infectious patients policy to stratify infectious patients per risk categories
- Using the guidance document as a basis for informing state planning on transport of high consequence infectious disease
- Multi-agency public health response planning



Benefits of Cross-Industry Collaboration



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1

Clear Evidence-Based Guidelines to use internally

2

Switch to risk-based management of infectious patients

3

Increased state and national inter-agency collaboration

4

Allows flexibility in a resource intensive industry

Acknowledgements

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Reference

EUROCAE, "ED-317 Guidance Document for Aeromedical Transport of Patients with Highly Infectious Diseases (HID)," Saint-Denis, 2023.



Questions?



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Thank you



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