

## Can a family member travel with me?

It may not be possible for your family member to travel with you. BCEHS recognizes the vital role that a family member plays in the holistic well-being of a patient, however there is limited space and weight capacity in an ambulance.

The decision for a family member to travel with you cannot be made until the paramedics have arrived to pick you up.

For this reason, BCEHS highly recommends that family members make their own travel arrangements.

If a family member is approved to travel with you, photo identification is required.

Your family member should also be prepared to make their own travel arrangements home.

## How do I return back to my community ?

When you are ready to return to your home community, your health care team and BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) will determine if you require paramedic care during transport.

If so, BCEHS and your health care team will arrange transport for you via the BC Ambulance Service.

If it is determined you do not require an ambulance, your health care team may arrange an alternate service provider.

If your health care team discharges you from the hospital, you are responsible for arranging your own way home.



For more information about BC Ambulance Service and BC Emergency Health Services, please visit [www.bcehs.ca](http://www.bcehs.ca)

## Going by BC Ambulance from a health care facility



**BCEHS** | BC Emergency Health Services

## What is the cost to travel by an ambulance?

### Inter-Hospital Transfers

If you are insured under the BC Medical Services Plan (MSP), and are being transferred from one hospital to another hospital:

- \$0 \*

### Inter-Facility Transfers

If you are insured under the BC Medical Services Plan, and are being transferred between a residential care home and a hospital:

- \$80 flat fee (air or ground) \*

### Non-MSP Beneficiaries

If you do not have a valid BC Care Card (e.g. visitors to BC/non-residents, as well as work related injuries, claims under RCMP, and other federal agencies) and require paramedic care and transportation by ambulance:

- \$848 flat fee (ground service) \*
- \$4,394 per hour (helicopter) \*
- \$11 per statute mile (airplane) (\$6.94 per kilometer)\*

**\*These prices are subject to change**

For more information on BC Ambulance Service billing, please visit:

[www.bcehs.ca/about/billing](http://www.bcehs.ca/about/billing)

## Are other patients going to be in the same ambulance as me?

Yes, it is possible that another patient will be in the same ambulance as you. There is a high demand for ambulances within the province and BCEHS strives to use paramedic resources wisely.

## Do I get to choose between air or ground transport?

No, this is a decision made with your health care team, in conjunction with BCEHS.

The decision is based on many factors including travel distance, your medical needs and resources available.



## Are there other ways to be transferred besides ambulance?

Yes, this decision is made by your health care team, based on your medical needs.

Alternate service providers may be used to transport you such as:

- Commercial airlines
- Taxis (wheelchair accessible)
- Family Members
- Private medical transportation service providers
- Handy Dart
- Bus

