

Preparation for Retrieval

PIPER Paediatric
Preparation for Retrieval
Emergency Line 1300 137 650

- Use VICTOR charts to assess normal vitals for age.
- Assess GCS for every child.
- Support family of an unwell child being transferred.



Airway: Ensure patient airway safety

1. Assess airway stability.
2. ETT patent, secure, position confirmed.
3. ETCO₂ continuous monitoring.
4. Sedation and / or paralysis adequate.



Breathing: optimise oxygenation

1. Observe respiratory rate & character (VICTOR chart for age).
2. SpO₂ monitored and optimised >92% / blood gas reviewed.
3. Administer oxygen using appropriate device.
4. Ensure ventilation settings appropriate.



Circulation: ensure IV access, optimise HR & BP

1. Ensure IV access secure and patent.
2. Consider Intraosseus access where IV access difficult.
3. Secure any CVC / arterial lines.
4. NIBP / arterial BP appropriately optimised for age (VICTOR charts).
5. IDC and orogastric / nasogastric tube.
6. Check blood sugar.
7. Monitor temperature and prevent heat loss.
8. Prepare medications for transport (Monash Emergency Medication handbook).



Documents and Departure

1. Ensure documentation complete.
2. Include referral letter and copies of all patient charts and NOK details.
3. Include Investigation and imaging results.
4. Provide access to original images either by CD or by hub and spoke.
5. Ensure belongings are managed and family engaged.
6. Note that family may not always be able to travel with their child.



Equipment Check

1. Oxygen and infusions sufficient for transport.
2. Equipment plugged in and batteries sufficient.
3. Put gastric tube on drainage and empty drainage bags.

ALERT: Call PIPER Clinician:

If Patient deteriorates.
If New abnormal results become available.
The need for intervention eg intubation.

Resources

RCH Clinical Practise Guidelines
Monash Paediatric Emergency Medication handbook
Trauma Victoria Guidelines REACH