Saving Lives

Post-cardiac arrest therapeutic hypothermia (TH) saves lives. It not only increases survival from cardiac arrest, but also improves neurological outcomes. The Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) is one of the country’s leading providers of this revolutionary treatment. In addition, the University of Pennsylvania’s Center for Resuscitation Science (CRS) is one of the world’s leaders in research about TH and other post-arrest therapies.

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To call for post-cardiac arrest patient transfer:

1-877-777-7366 (PENN)

PennSTAR Flight
1499 Narcissa Road
Blue Bell, PA 19422

Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
Emergency Department
3400 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104

http://pennhealth.com
Emergency Transport

Since its formation in 1988, the PennSTAR flight program has provided emergency, air medical transport to the Southeast Pennsylvania region. Today they operate within a 100 mile radius of the University of Pennsylvania Health System, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, weather depending. PennSTAR now offers transportation of post-cardiac arrest patients from surrounding facilities to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) for post-cardiac arrest therapeutic hypothermia (TH) treatment. HUP’s experience with TH and other aspects of post-arrest care ensures that all transported patients receive the best possible medical care.

Q: How can we gain access to this treatment?
A: PennSTAR transports patients from outside hospitals to HUP for TH and integrated post-arrest care.

Q: What number do I need to call?
A: 1-877-777-7366 (PENN)

Q: How does the program work?
A: Dialing 1-877-777-7366 connects the caller with the PennSTAR Command Center. Communications specialists will connect you with the on-call Cardiac Arrest Attending Physician who will briefly review the patient’s history and clinical condition with you to determine eligibility for TH and post-arrest care. After this call, PennSTAR will dispatch a helicopter to transport the patient to HUP. In most cases the helicopter should arrive within 1 hour of the initial call. In the event of dangerous weather, we will arrange ground transportation to HUP.

Q: How will I find out the status of a transferred patient?
A: We send prompt patient updates to the referring physician, continuing these throughout their entire stay at HUP. Additionally, we will facilitate transfer of all patients back to their referring physician upon discharge from HUP.

Research

The University of Pennsylvania’s Center for Resuscitation Science, under the leadership of its director, Lance Becker, MD, strives to promote and improve TH and other aspects of post-arrest care.