
BACKGROUND

2006HEALTH0082-001546
Dec. 22, 2006

Ministry of Health
BC Ambulance Service
Interior Health Authority

CRITICAL CARE TRANSPORT TEAM

- The Critical Care Transport (CCT) Team is a specialized group of critical care paramedics and critical care nurses who provide pre-hospital patient care and inter-facility transport for critically ill or injured patients within the Kootenay Boundary area.
- The CCT Team helps ensure that valuable hospital medical staff can remain in local health-care facilities, rather than being involved in patient transports, and brings a higher level of pre-hospital care to the area that was not available previously. All 10 original members of the team continue to work on the CCT, including two staff recruited from out-of-province.
- The CCT completed 362 inter-facility transports and 172 pre-hospital or emergency ‘street’ calls during the pilot project phase from June 2005 to June 2006. Examples of medical situations that the CCT would respond to include:
 - Major traumas resulting from serious accidents or motor vehicle collisions;
 - Severe, life-threatening illnesses where airway/breathing or circulation is compromised; and
 - Cardiac arrest and heart attacks.
- Between June 2005 and May 2006, the CCT responded to the following type of calls:
 - Maternity two per cent;
 - Medical 21 per cent;
 - Trauma 13 per cent;
 - Respiratory 10 per cent;
 - Neuro trauma four per cent;
 - Cardiac 50 per cent.
- There are a number of examples where the CCT has had a positive impact on the citizens and health care system in the KBSHA including:
 - Several patients have benefited from the team’s ability to transport critical patients to the airport. Previously, the airevac team met an ambulance at the airport, picked up the patient at hospital and then transport them back to the waiting aircraft.
 - An area resident that was considering leaving the area due to limited access to advance health care decided not to move following their positive experience with the team.

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