

COVID-19 PATIENT OVERFLOW PROTOCOL FOR HOSPITALS

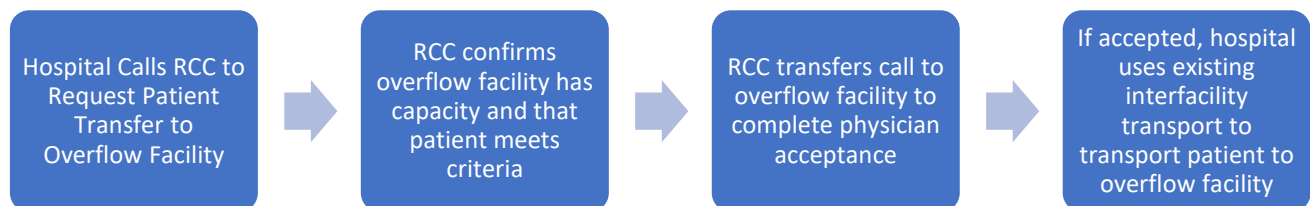
(updated 4-18-2020)

The State has established overflow facilities at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta to relieve the burden of the COVID-19 virus on overwhelmed Georgia hospitals statewide. Hospitals that are at capacity should use the COVID-19 Regional Coordinating Center (RCC) to transfer COVID-19+ or patients under investigation (PUI) to other facilities. The RCC is staffed by paramedics and emergency medical technicians who will facilitate the transfer process. Below are the criteria and procedures, for transfer.

COVID-19 Regional Coordinating Center

(404) 616-2300

Fax Number (404) 489-6921



Eligible Patients

- PUI or COVID-19+

Requests for Patient Transfer to the Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC)

The GWCC is a 200-bed alternate care site in downtown Atlanta designed to care for low acuity COVID-19+ and PUI patients.

Eligible Patients for GWCC

- PUI or COVID-19+
- Current facility at capacity
- Low acuity inpatient not requiring ICU or Intermediate level care
 - **Clinical Exclusions:**
 - Patients on supplemental oxygen above 2 LPM nasal cannula
 - Patients on IV pressors
 - Patients on IV insulin
 - Patients requiring dialysis
 - Patients with behavioral health management needs
 - Patients below 18 years of age
 - Patients pregnant over 7 months (28 weeks)
- Commitment to repatriate patient if necessary due to deterioration or other issues

- Commitment to repatriate patient if, at the end of the GWCC overflow facility contracted period, patient does not have a discharge plan
- Transferring hospital must provide a 7-day supply of all medications

Procedures for Transfer to the GWCC

1. Hospital calls the RCC at **(404) 616-2300** with request to transfer patient to GWCC.
2. The RCC will verify the patient meets the criteria for admittance and confirms space is available at the GWCC.
3. The RCC will connect the transferring hospital to the GWCC for a physician-to-physician acceptance.
4. The RCC will stay on the line until the call is complete.
5. Once accepted, the transferring hospital will fax the patient's face sheet to the RCC at **(404) 489-6921**.
6. Transferring facility will use its existing inter-facility transport process to transport the patient to the GWCC.

Procedures for Repatriation of Stable Patients from the GWCC

If a patient needs repatriation for any reason, the following procedures will be followed.

1. The GWCC will contact the RCC with the request to transfer the patient to the original transferring facility due to a deterioration in condition or other reason.
2. The RCC will confirm availability of space at the originating facility.
3. The RCC will connect the transferring GWCC physician to the originating facility transfer center or contact to initiate the transfer process.
4. Once acceptance is confirmed, the GWCC will arrange interfacility transport through the RCC.

Procedures for Critical Patients from the GWCC

1. The GWCC will call 911 for immediate transport of the patient.
2. The responding EMS will call the RCC to determine patient destination based on existing protocols.