
Safe Transportation of Children in Ground Ambulances

RECOMMENDATIONS



DOs

- DO tightly secure all monitoring devices and other equipment.
- DO ensure available restraint systems are used by EMS providers and other occupants, including the patient.
- DO transport children who are not patients, properly restrained, in an alternate passenger vehicle whenever possible.

DON'Ts

- DO NOT allow parents, caregivers, EMS provider or other passengers to be unrestrained during transport.
- DO NOT have the child/infant held in the lap or arms of the parent, caregiver, or EMS provider during transport.
- DO NOT leave monitoring devices and other equipment unsecured in moving EMS vehicles.
- DO NOT allow emergency vehicles to be operated by persons who have not completed the DOT NHTSA Emergency Vehicle Operating Course (EVOC), National Standard Curriculum, or its equivalent.

CAR SEATS & CRASHES

NHTSA recommends that child restraints should be REPLACED* following a *moderate* or *severe* crash in order to ensure a continued high level of crash protection for child passengers. However, NHTSA recommends the RE-USE of a child safety seat that has been involved in a *minor* crash. A minor crash should meet ALL of the following criteria:



- The vehicle was able to be driven away from the crash site;
- The vehicle door nearest the safety seat was undamaged;
- There were no injuries to any of the vehicle occupants;
- The air bags (if present) did not deploy; AND
- There is no visible damage to the safety seat.

**Insurance companies will often replace child safety seats that have been involved in a crash.*
