



August 11, 2022

To OSH Nurses, Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, and
Security/Transport staff:

This CMO Directive modifies OSH Policy 8.039, "Secure Transport Restraints." The intent is to clarify several frequently asked questions, given recent changes in availability of law enforcement personnel and lack of clarity regarding when Secure Transport Restraints (STRs) are not required.

STRs are used only for off-grounds custody transportation reasons for patients committed under the following statutes:

- Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 161.370 (.370);
- ORS 161.295 (Guilty Except for Insanity [GEI]), if the patient does not have off-grounds privileges granted by Forensic Risk Review;
- ORS 426.701/.702 (Extremely Dangerous Persons [EDP]), if the patient does not have off-grounds privileges granted by Forensic Risk Review.

STRs may be applied only by law enforcement personnel or, if law enforcement personnel are unavailable, by members of the Safety and Security Department trained on the proper use of STRs.

At least two persons must accompany a patient requiring STRs for all off-grounds medical care.

- When law enforcement personnel are available, at least one of these must be OSH staff.
- When law enforcement personnel are unavailable, at least two OSH staff must accompany the patient, one of which must be a member of the Safety and Security Department trained on the proper use of STRs.

Exceptions to the use of STRs are as follows:

- STRs may not be used for patients under a civil commitment, Voluntary by Guardian/Health Care Representative status, or Voluntary status, under any circumstances.
- STRs may not be used for a pregnant patient believed to be in active labor during transportation to the acute-care hospital or during labor and delivery. STRs must be applied following delivery if otherwise required.
- If it is medically contraindicated to place STRs on a patient (e.g., extremity fracture, cardiac or respiratory arrest, active seizure), the physician/nurse practitioner may recommend to law enforcement personnel or trained Safety and Security Department staff that STRs not be placed on one or more limbs until the patient has stabilized. The rationale for this recommendation must be documented in a note.
- Temporary removal of STRs for medical procedures, including imaging or phlebotomy, is permitted when required by a medical professional and at the discretion of the escorting law enforcement personnel or trained Safety and Security Department staff. Removal of STRs during overnight sleep studies requires the approval of the Chief Medical Officer or designee.

This directive remains in effect until OSH Policy 8.039, "Secure Transport Restraints," is updated or the directive is otherwise rescinded.

If you have questions, concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at sara.walker@dhsosha.state.or.us or 503-945-8962.

Sincerely,

Sara C. Walker, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Oregon State Hospital

CC: Dolly Matteucci, Oregon State Hospital Superintendent
Tim Hanson, Interim Director of Safety & Security