

## **Guidelines for Restricted NICU Transfers During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Effective immediately and continuing until further notice all non-essential NICU transports from institutions outside the Mount Sinai Health System are suspended.

Examples of *essential* (“*life rescue*”) transfers in the neonatal population include but are not limited to:

- Potential need for ECMO
- Congenital Heart Disease requiring urgent neonatal intervention
- Anomalies or conditions requiring urgent surgical evaluation or intervention not available at the referring institution
- Issues related to prematurity requiring higher level of care than offered at referral institution

Necessity of transport will be determined either by the NICU service attending (Day 8a-4p) or NICU on-call attending (Night 4p-8a). Cases requiring further review to determine level of necessity will be referred to the NICU Medical Director or Chief of Newborn Medicine. All accepted transfers should follow the usual process coordinated by the Mount Sinai Transfer Center.