7.4 TRANSFER OF THE WOMAN TO THE OPERATING THEATRE

**AIMS**

1. To provide a safe environment for the woman and fetus during transfer to the operating theatre.
2. To promote a woman focused approach to care.
3. To adequately meet the information needs of the receiving staff in the theatre.

**KEY POINTS**

1. All patients will be transferred to the theatre holding bay by a nurse / midwife and an orderly / PCA.
2. All patients shall be transferred to the holding bay by either a wheelchair, trolley or bed as appropriate.
3. Patients shall not walk to theatre due to safety concerns.
4. All patients shall be covered with a blanket for warmth and dignity.
5. All patient personal belongings shall be bagged, labelled and given to the family, left in the patient’s room or secured in a locker by unit nursing / midwifery staff.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROCEDURE</th>
<th>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</th>
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<td>2.2</td>
<td>The anaesthetic nurse / technician instruction will inform DSU / Ward staff when theatre is ready to receive the woman. Ensures the woman is transferred when a theatre staff member is ready to continue her care. This eases the transition period for the woman and minimizes any anxiety.</td>
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<td>2.3</td>
<td>Escort the woman and her support person to theatre ‘holding bay’. The support person must be wearing appropriate foot attire.</td>
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2.4 Ensure that

- the woman's medical records,
- a labeled blue “Patient’s Belongings” bag
- a pillow and blanket

all go to theatre with the woman.

2.5 Hand over the care of the woman to theatre staff. The woman is then escorted into the anaesthetic room by theatre staff before being assisted onto a trolley.

Maintains privacy and dignity for the woman.

4. Transfer of Care to Theatre staff

4.1 Transfer of care will occur at “holding bay. Hand over to the receiving nurse and / or technician. See Clinical Guideline F Admission to Theatre

Theatre staff need to be aware of the woman's pre-operative health status and birth plan so that individualized care can be provided.

4.2 Check the woman's identification with receiving nurse or technician.