

MedFlight of Ohio

Mobile Technologies

Policies / Procedures / Protocols

Loading and Securing the Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump Patient into Rotor Wing Aircraft

1. Prepare the Aircraft for the Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump (IABP) console prior to departure:
 - Remove second patient stretcher from aircraft
 - Make sure you have the 3 straps pre-installed on aircraft in the location of the second pt. stretcher
 - test to ensure security
2. Prepare the IABP to load.
 - Load the IABP into the aircraft while maintaining all connections to the pump
 - Lift the IABP console using a minimum of 2 persons, and only by the side handles
 - **DO NOT** use the extension handle when lifting console into aircraft!!
 - Secure the IABP with the 3 straps. Allow room to open console to monitor operational controls
 - This procedure will require the assistance of the Pilot. The aircraft should not be running!
 - In the proper position the IABP will lay flat on it's skid plate on the bench next to the RN with the console facing the RN in the open position.
3. Load the patient into the aircraft using caution not to strike the safety disc and/or tubing with the stretcher. The RN will stay with the patient on board the aircraft to assure this does not occur.
4. After loading is complete and you ascertain that the stretcher is the correct position lock the stretcher in place as per usual.
5. Plug the IABP console into the wall outlet to conserve battery power for potential use.
7. Reconfirm IABP settings:
 - Press **ASSIST/STANDBY** to resume pumping if it has been on standby.
 - Verify timing, settings, and initiate **AutoFill**.
 - Verify A-Line zero
8. There may be a time when it is more feasible to load the patient before the IAPB due to placement of the catheter and length of tubing. In this event remember the patient can be disconnected for a short duration to facilitate this procedure. Place pump in the **STANDBY** mode if this is the case follow all setup procedures when reconnecting the patient to resume pumping as in step 7 of the document.