

Emergency Medical Services

Bariatric Patient Measurement Job Aid

Bariatric patient means any patient weighing in excess of 150kg (330lbs) or the widest part of the body is greater than 27 inches

Bariatric patients may require a specialized stretcher and/or ambulance for transferring to and from facilities or transfers to their home (residence, nursing home, etc.). To understand their needs, patient measurements are required for this patient subset, along with their mobility status. An ambulatory patient who can climb steep stairs into an ambulance or medevac plane may not require a bariatric resource.

Please discuss the patients bariatric needs with the receiving site during the booking or consultation phase as there are limitations with CT, MRI, lifts etc.

The following describes the process for capturing appropriate measurements to ensure an efficient and effective response for patient transports requiring a bariatric ambulance/aircraft.

Measure the patient's width;

- Have the patient lay supine
- Measure at the widest section of the patient, midsection or sometimes shoulders dependent on which is wider
- Measure from A B as per picture below
- Do not add arms
- Do not measure circumference
- A BROSELOW Pediatric Emergency Tape can be used as an aid. If the patient's width is less than the 6 KG identification line in the Pink section of the Broselow Tape, they would measure less than the 27 inches (68.58 cm.). Any patient's width above that would be considered bariatric.



