

Nightingale Dispatch

1-800-572-4354



Air Medical Transport Criteria

Utilize EMS regional or state-approved protocols to determine need for on-scene air transport. If in doubt, consult with on-line medical control.

Appropriateness for on-scene air transport is dynamic, and best determined by the pre-hospital provider based on EMS treatment protocols and/or on-line medical direction.

Landing Zone Training

To request LZ training, scan QR code or visit:

<https://www.sentara.com/medicalservices/nightingale/communication-outreach>



600 Gresham Drive, Norfolk, VA 23507

www.sentara.com/nightingale

FAA Part 135 Aviation Services Provided by Metro Aviation, Inc.

Helicopter Landing Zone Quick Reference Guide



Helicopter Request Procedure

Location

- Exact numeric street address is preferred
- If not available, provide closest road location, with cross streets
- Provide distance/direction to nearest reference point, if used
- Identify prominent geographic features (e.g. lakes, schools, golf courses) near the landing zone

Communications

- Designate one individual to coordinate LZ comms
- Provide radio frequency (e.g. Statewide, 800 MHz channel, etc.)
- Provide call sign on LZ Command (e.g. Engine 15, LZ Control, etc.)
- Nightingale will provide ETA and attempt radio contact on designated frequency 5-10 minutes prior to arrival. Be ready to report landing surface, how it is marked, and ANY obstacles in/around LZ

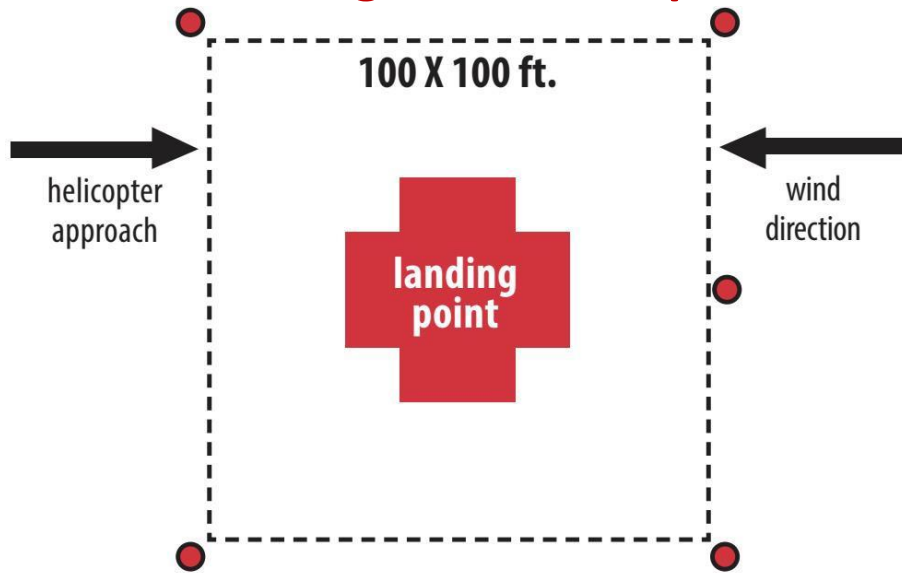
Patient Status

- Weight of patient
- Airway status/brief LOC
- Uncontrolled hemorrhage (if present)

HAZ-MAT

- Always inform incoming crew of any HAZ-MAT
- Decon of contaminated patients is required; flight crew will determine suitability for patient to safely fly

Landing Zone Set-up



- 100ft by 100ft
- Level as possible (maximum slope – less than 5 degrees)
- Free of overhead obstructions (e.g. wires, antennas, poles)
- Clear of debris and other hazards
- Helicopters come in at an angle to land – be sure to evaluate for hazards in the areas surrounding the LZ
 - Note any large obstacles in any area seen from the LZ (e.g. cell towers, antennas, water towers, silos, etc.) – be sure to report if they are lighted
- Clearly mark the LZ with weighted cones (cones laying on side with flashlight inside preferred at night). Position LZ controller to face helicopter on its approach
- **HAZ-MAT**
 - Site 1 mile UPWIND (avoid low-lying areas)
 - Radioactive materials – ¼ mile UPWIND
 - Patients MUST BE DECONTAMINATED

NOTE: The flight crew uses Night Vision Goggles – be prepared to shut off flashing apparatus lights, safety and operations permitting, if requested.

Landing Zone Safety

- Maintain radio contact at all times until helicopter has landed, loaded, and departed the area
- Keep spectators at least 200ft from the touchdown area
- Keep emergency service personnel at least 100ft away
- Have fire equipment (if available) standing by and prepared to wet down the touchdown area if it is extremely dusty
- Assure that everyone who will be working near the helicopter wears eye and hearing protection. If helmets are worn, chin straps must be securely fastened
- When the helicopter lands, do not allow anyone to approach the helicopter. The crew will approach you when it is safe to do so
- Night LZ's require increased situational awareness. Control of spotlights, floodlights, flashbulbs, vehicle hi-beam lighting, etc. are essential to keep from temporarily blinding the pilot during takeoff and landings
- Always avoid tail rotor. Do not approach from up-slope. Approach the helicopter from sides or front while always maintaining eye contact with the pilot

