

Pan-London Acute Aortic Dissection Stanford Type B Referral, Transfer, Escalation Pathway

Step 1: Confirm Diagnosis

Acute Aortic Dissection Stanford Type B (involving descending aorta +/- abdominal aorta) confirmed via imaging (e.g., CT Angiogram).



Immediate stabilisation of the patient as per local protocols.

Step 2: Refer to Vascular Team at Primary Aortic Centre

The **primary specialty** (e.g., cardiology, acute medicine) or **Emergency Department (ED)** diagnosing the patient is responsible for initiating the referral and transfer to the **Primary Aortic Centre** (details provided in Step 4).



If the **Primary Aortic Centre** has no capacity, escalate the case as per **Step 3**.

Step 3: Escalation Responsibility

Primary Aortic Centre receiving the referral must take full responsibility for facilitating escalations to alternative aortic centres within or outside the London region.



Once the **Primary Aortic Centre** has identified an appropriate **receiving centre**, it must coordinate with the ED or primary specialty team to arrange patient transfer, as outlined in **Step 5**.



The **Emergency Department** or primary specialty is **not responsible** for handling escalation or coordination between aortic centres.

Step 4: London Regional Transfer Pathways

South London (Primary Aortic Centres)

- Hospitals
- St. Thomas' Hospital [Contact No.: 0207 188 7188]
 - St. George's Hospital [Contact No.: 0208 672 1255 (Bleep Vascular SpR 6640)]

If South London has no capacity

Escalate to:

- 1. North-West London**
 - St. Mary's Hospital [Contact No.: 07795 601650 Or 0203 312 8737]
 - Royal Brompton Hospital [Contact No.: 0207 376 3848]
- 2. North-East London**
 - Royal London Hospital [Contact No.: 07808 203479]
 - St Bartholemew's Hospital [Contact No.: 07900 051070]

North-West London (Primary Aortic Centres)

- Hospitals
- St. Mary's Hospital [Contact No.: 07795 601650 Or 0203 312 8737]
 - Royal Brompton Hospital [Contact No.: 0207 376 3848]

If North-West London has no capacity

Escalate to:

- 1. North-East London**
 - Royal London Hospital [Contact No.: 07808 203479]
 - St Bartholemew's Hospital [Contact No.: 07900 051070]
- 2. South London**
 - St. Thomas' Hospital [Contact No.: 0207 188 7188]
 - St. George's Hospital [Contact No.: 0208 672 1255 (Bleep Vascular SpR 6640)]

North-East London (Primary Aortic Centre)

- Hospitals
- St Bartholemew's Hospital [Contact No.: 07900 051070]
 - Royal London Hospital [Contact No.: 07808 20 3479]
 - Royal Free Hospital [Contact No.: 07974 24 0271]

If North-East London has no capacity

Escalate to:

- 1. North-West London**
 - St. Mary's Hospital [Contact No.: 07795 601650 Or 0203 312 8737]
 - Royal Brompton Hospital [Contact No.: 0207 376 3848]
- 2. South London**
 - St. Thomas' Hospital [Contact No.: 0207 188 7188]
 - St. George's Hospital [Contact No.: 0208 672 1255 (Bleep Vascular SpR 6640)]

Step 5: Route of Transfer

Primary Transfer via ACCESS (Acute Critical Care Emergency Support Service):

- Contact Number: 0330 330 4357 (Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).



Backup Transfer via London Ambulance Service (Critical Care Transfer):

- Contact No.: 999 (Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).