

Evacuation Prioritisation and Assistance Requirements in Residential Healthcare Settings[®]

Category	Evacuation Priority (EP)	Descriptor	Priority for Onward Transfer (P)
Independent	EP1 —These residents can move independently and should be evacuated first. They can walk or use a wheelchair with minimal assistance, ensuring a swift move to an internal assembly point (a place of temporary safety).	Independent residents can manage personal care with little to no assistance and are mobile at a pace comparable to staff members, whether by walking or wheelchair.	P3 —These residents are prioritised last for transfer to another healthcare facility due to their higher mobility and independence.
Dependent	EP2 —These residents require moderate assistance and are prioritised second for evacuation. One to two staff members may be necessary to assist them in their movement, possibly involving wheelchairs or evacuation equipment.	Dependent residents may need help transferring to a wheelchair or with evacuation equipment. They might be connected to minimal medical equipment, require constant supervision, or have limited mobility; examples might include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident can walk unaided for less than 5 metres. • The resident will require the support of one or two members of staff when walking. • The resident requires more than minimal assistance or is unwilling to wear clothing. • The resident is connected to 1 piece of apparatus. • The resident must be moved into a wheelchair by another person. • The resident can only be moved with evacuation equipment. • The resident cannot be left without supervision. 	P2 —These residents are moved second in priority as they necessitate transfer to another healthcare facility or hospital for continued care.
Very Dependent	EP3 —These residents need extensive assistance and are moved last during an evacuation. Their evacuation may necessitate the support of multiple staff members, possibly involving complex medical equipment and specialist evacuation equipment, such as bariatric or bed-bound conditions.	Very dependent residents require extensive assistance for evacuation, potentially including bed movement and specialised equipment. They are often in critical condition and require continuous, one-to-one supervision; examples might include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needing over 3 minutes to be disconnected from equipment. • Being in critical condition or attached to multiple pieces of equipment. • Requiring movement on their beds for evacuation. • Necessitating two or more staff for evacuation due to their condition or the equipment used. • Continuous one-to-one supervision is required due to their health status. 	P1 —Given their critical need for support to sustain life, these residents are transferred to another healthcare facility or hospital.

- Note:**
- The evacuation priority assumes no immediate danger to residents and does not account for those directly near a fire's origin.
 - It is crucial for the management team to continuously assess their residents' specific needs and conditions to adapt the evacuation and transfer priorities as necessary.
 - Regular staff training and drills tailored to these categories will ensure preparedness in an emergency.

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