



Section 1: Administrative / Medical Control

GUIDELINE/PROCEDURES: ON SCENE EMT/NURSE/PHYSICIAN INTERVENER

The medical direction of prehospital care at the scene of an emergency is the responsibility of those most appropriately trained in providing such care.

PURPOSE

- To identify a chain of command to allow field personnel to adequately care for the patient
- To assure the patient receives the maximum benefit from prehospital care
- To minimize the liability of the EMS system as well as the on - scene Physician

PROCEDURE

1. When a non - Medical Control Physician offers assistance to EMS or the patient is being attended by a Physician with whom they do not have an ongoing patient relationship, EMS personnel must review the On-Scene Physician form with the Physician. All requisite documentation must be verified and the Physician must be approved by on - line Medical Control.
2. When the patient is being attended by a Physician with whom they have an ongoing patient relationship, EMS personnel may follow orders given by the Physician if the orders conform to current EMS guidelines, and if the Physician signs the PCR. Notify Medical Control at the earliest opportunity. Any deviation from local EMS protocols requires the Physician to accompany the patient to the hospital.
3. EMS personnel may accept orders from the patient's Physician over the phone with the approval of Medical Control. The Paramedic should obtain the specific order and the Physician's phone number for relay to Medical Control so that Medical Control can discuss any concerns with the Physician directly.

EMT / Nurse / Healthcare - Intervener:

On an EMS run where an unknown EMT / Nurse / Healthcare - Intervener from outside the responding EMS agency wishes to intervene in the care of patients, the following steps should be initiated:

- Ideally, if no further assistance is needed, the offer should be declined.
- If the intervener's assistance is needed or may contribute to the care of the patient:
 - An attempt should be made to obtain proper identification of a valid license / certification. Notation of intervener name, address and certification numbers must be documented on the run report.
 - Medical Control should be contacted and permission given.

On - Scene Physician:

This is a Physician with no previous relationship to the patient, who is not the patient's private Physician, but is offering assistance in caring for the patient. The following criteria must be met for this Physician to assume any responsibility for the care of the patient:

- Ideally, if no further assistance is needed, offer should be declined.
- Medical Control must be informed and give approval. Encourage Physician to Physician contact.
- The physician must have proof they are a Physician. They should be able to show you their medical license. Notation of Physician name, address and license numbers must be documented on the run report.
- The Physician should have expertise in the medical field for which the patient is being treated.
- The Physician must be willing to assume responsibility for the patient until relieved by another Physician, usually at the Emergency Department.
- The Physician must not require the EMT to perform any procedures or institute any treatment that would vary from protocol and / or procedure.
- If the Physician is not willing or able to comply with all the above requirements, his / her assistance must be declined.

On - Scene Personal Care Physician:

This is a Physician with a current relationship to the patient, who is offering assistance in caring for the patient. The following criteria must be met for this Physician to assume further responsibility for the care of the patient:

- EMS should perform its duties as usual under the supervision of Medical Control or by protocol.
- Physician to ED Physician contact is optimal.
- The Physician may elect to treat the patient in his office.
- EMS should not provide any treatment under the Physician's direction that varies from protocol. If asked, EMS should decline until contact is made with Medical Control.
- Once the patient has been transferred into the squad, the patient's care comes under Medical Control.