

# INTRODUCTION

The Cleveland Clinic Physicians Advisory Board has developed the following EMS Medical Control Protocols and Procedures Manual to establish the minimum standard of care, which will be provided by all Emergency Medical Services organizations under their respective Medical Control authority.

These protocols and procedures are to be used as guidelines for operation during EMS calls that require medical direction. They are also intended to be guidelines to ensure that personnel are trained in proper pre-hospital patient care. Procedures are not considered rigid rules, but rather established standards against which EMS practice can be measured.

Treatment protocols are specific orders directing the actions pertaining to techniques and / or medications used by EMS personnel who are required to practice under direct supervision of a physician and under their respective EMS Medical Control authority of the Cleveland Clinic.

Treatment protocols may and should be initiated without prior direct Medical Control contact, especially when the patient's condition and / or situation is life threatening. As soon as the condition and / or situation permits, direct contact must be established with Medical Control for confirmation of medical care and further medical direction.

Emergency Medical Services and their personnel who wish to operate under the Cleveland Clinic EMS Medical Control authority may do so only with the express written and signed authorization of their respective EMS Medical Director.

Although not identical, these protocols and procedures are derived from the State of Ohio EMS guidelines. Please note that items in this manual are subject to continuous review for the sake of providing members with the most current emergency medical information. Updates to this material may be frequent to maintain a current standard of care to benefit both the patient and the provider of emergency medical care. The bottom of the page shows when the most current version was printed. Please replace older versions with newly updated material as soon as it is issued. Once updated, older versions are to be considered obsolete and thus, are to be discarded to help eliminate confusion.