

## Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

<b>Title: Helicopter Utilization Policy</b>	<b>Effective Date: April 1993</b> <b>Page: 1 of 1</b>
<b>Policy #1993-2</b>	<b>Revised: May 2004</b>

<b>Policy:</b>	It is the policy of the REMAC that on scene use of helicopters by EMS agencies should follow these guidelines.
<b>Procedure:</b>	<p><b>1. Consider EMS Helicopter Transport:</b></p> <p>a. for patients who meet the WREMS Trauma Transport Policy guidelines, and when helicopter transport will significantly reduce the arrival time at a trauma center or reduce arrival time to less than 30 minutes</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>or</b></p> <p>b. for patients whom the appropriate level of EMS care cannot generally be provided by the local EMS agency but can be provided by the helicopter personnel - transport by ground if the patient can be delivered to the closest facility prior to helicopter arrival</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>or</b></p> <p>c. in special circumstances including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mass Casualty Incidents</li> <li>- Equipment and/or personnel considerations</li> <li>- Safer/more effective transport</li> <li>- Facilitate rescue/extrication</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>and</b></p> <p>d. <u>only</u> if the pt has viable signs of life (a measurable blood pressure or pulse)</p> <p><b>2. Helicopter Services should be:</b></p> <p>a. alerted to a “stand by” status by any Dispatcher, EMS, Fire or Police authority as soon as a potential need is identified.</p> <p>b. requested by on-scene prehospital care provider with the highest level of training, or in the absence of EMS personnel, the decision will be made by the scene incident commander.</p> <p><b>3. Patient transport should not be delayed waiting for a helicopter unless directed by MC.</b></p>
<b>Reference:</b>	Western Regional EMS ALS Protocols