

Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

Title: Diazepam/Controlled Substances Availability Policy	Effective Date: April 1998 Page: 1 of 1
Policy #1998-2	Revised: May 2004

Policy:	<p>As a part of the WREMS Advanced Life Support Protocols all ALS Units at the Critical Care and Paramedic level within the Western Regional Emergency Medical System area are required to have immediately available the controlled substances as prescribed in the WREMS Advanced Life Support Protocols.</p> <p>In the event ALS units are unable to have controlled substances available, the ALS unit, in conjunction with written authorization from their Medical Director, may exercise a “Local Medical Control Option”. This option gives the ALS unit the alternative of not carrying controlled substances with the provision that there will be simultaneous, automatic dispatch of an additional ALS unit that does carry controlled substances for calls relating to any response for possible seizures. It is also understood that if the requesting ALS unit’s ETA to the hospital is shorter than the intercept vehicles ETA to the requesting ambulance, then the requesting ambulance should proceed directly to the hospital without delay.</p> <p>The Advanced Life Support unit should be aware that any changes or restrictions in the automatic simultaneous dispatch criteria would jeopardize the units continued ability to practice advanced life support at the Critical Care or Paramedic level in our region.</p>
Procedure:	<p>Once it has been mutually agreed on by the Medical Director and Chief Executive Officer that the Advanced Life Support agency (Critical Care or Paramedic) is not able to have controlled substances available, written correspondence verifying this must occur between the Advanced Life Support agency and the Medical Director. This correspondence must include an acknowledgement that automatic, simultaneous dispatch of an Advanced Life Support unit that does have controlled substances will occur. This response is required for calls of all “seizure” or “seizure” related episodes.</p> <p>This correspondence with original signatures must be forwarded to the office of Western Regional Emergency Medical System, Inc. in the Medical Direction file.</p>
Reference:	WREMAC Minutes from November 2002 and Western Regional EMS ALS Protocols