

Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

Title: Transfer of Care to a Provider of Lower Certification level	Effective Date: May 19, 2004 Page: 1 of 1
Policy #2004-4	Revised:

Policy:	<p>In order to best utilize EMS provider resources, it is sometimes advantageous to permit an EMS provider to transfer patient care to an EMS provider with a lower level of certification.</p> <p>If, after evaluating a pt, a prehospital care provider feels that the pt can safely and effectively be released to an EMS provider with a lower level of certification, then she/he must contact MC. She/he should present a brief history and physical examination to MC, and then request permission to release the pt. If MC agrees with this transfer, then the pt may be transferred to an EMS provider with a lower level of certification.</p> <p>The transporting EMS provider must complete a PCR as usual including the name of the EMS provider who released the pt, the name of the MC physician who agreed to this release, and any other relevant information. A copy of the PCR must be sent to the EMS provider's Medical Director for quality assurance purposes.</p> <p>The pt must be transported by the EMS provider with the highest level of certification if there exists any question(s) regarding the safety and/or effectiveness of this release. This release must never occur without the consent of MC as during communication failures. This policy does not apply to mass casualty incidents in which it is customary and necessary practice for EMS providers to field-triage patients to care and transportation by EMS providers of lower level of certification.</p>
Procedure:	
Reference:	Western Regional EMS ALS Protocols