

SAN JUAN ISLAND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
SAN JUAN COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1

Standard Operating Guideline

Transport Activation and Medical Control

No. 117-10

Date Issued: February 1, 2007

Revised: June 2, 2010

Effective: Immediately

Date Revised: _____

Purpose: To establish a guideline for appropriate notification of the on-call EMS physician and to establish understanding of the role of the community “initiating” physician requesting medical transportation.

Guideline:

1. It is acceptable by Airlift guidelines for any EMT, paramedic, nurse, or physician to request and “activate” Airlift. This function is separate from our response as an EMS agency and our responsibilities under our operating guidelines.
2. Only EMS personnel may initiate Island Air or the Sheriff P/V Guardian transports under our EMS contracts for these services.
3. When EMS is contacted to transport a patient to Airlift, the call will be dispatched as any other “Code Red” 9-1-1 request unless the patient *is physically present* at a physician’s office, and directly under the care of that initiating physician. In that instance only, the patient transport will be handled as a “Code Yellow” or non-emergency transport *when requested by the initiating physician*. If not stated, the call will be handled as all other “Code Red” calls.
4. After EMS personnel arrive at the side of the patient, there is a legal relationship established between that patient and the County MPD through the EMS personnel and the Standing Orders written by the MPD.
5. Realizing this relationship, the patient will begin to be treated under the guidelines and protocols set forth under the pre-approved San Juan County EMS written protocols established by the MPD.
6. If the initiating physician desires different treatment, he/she is to contact the MPD who will make the final determination of patient treatment and destination.
7. The best care of the patient will remain the highest priority at all times.
8. It is understood that EMS personnel can effectively function “off-line” in many circumstances, and therefore online medical direction may not be required.
9. Taking time to contact Online Medical Control in the middle of the emergency when no need for on-line medical direction exists can sometimes be deleterious to the care of the patient if these communications deter effective patient care.
10. All Online Medical Control is to be provided directly by the MPD only.