

Bethel Township Fire Department

GENERAL ORDER: 501	SECTION: Operations
SUBJECT: Patient Transports	EFFECTS: All Personnel
ADOPTED: 05/01/2016	SUPERSEDES: All Previous
REVISED: 02/13/2019 09/20/2020	

PURPOSE:

- A. This policy establishes the guidelines for which patients of the Bethel Township Fire Department are transported to receiving hospitals.

GENERAL ORDER:

A. Medical Facilities

1. The Fire Department has identified the following facilities as transport locations:
 - a. Grandview Hospital
 - b. Miami Valley Hospital
 - c. Children's Medical Center
 - d. Soin Medical Center
 - e. Miami Valley North Emergency Room
 - f. Huber Heights Emergency Room
 - g. Wright Patterson Medical Center (**Call Hospital First**)
 - h. VA Medical Center (**Call Hospital First**) *See F below
 - i. Upper Valley Medical Center
 - j. Springfield Regional Hospital
 - k. Troy Hospital
2. Emergency Medical crews shall provide routine transport to any of the above locations based upon the GMVEMSC Standing Orders, severity of illness or injury.

3. As specified in the GMVEMSC Standing Orders, any patient with an illness or injury which requires a specialty hospital for specific treatment as defined in the GMVEMSC will be transported to that medical facility.
4. EMS crews are permitted to transport a patient to a hospital that is not one of the primary transport locations when transporting a patient from a mutual aid jurisdiction, during a mass casualty incident or with authorization from the on-duty officer.
5. At no time will the EMS crew argue with the patient over transporting the patient to a hospital that is not a primary transport location. If the patient continues to request a hospital that is non-primary location, the crew shall contact the on-duty officer or Supervisor for direction.

C. Hospital Rerouting

1. When the Fire Department is notified that any or all hospitals are rerouting emergency patients, employees shall follow the current GMVEMSC re-routing procedures.

D. Emergency Rerouting

1. In the event of overcrowding, it may become necessary for more than two hospitals to declare rerouting status; at that time a rerouting emergency will be declared.
2. Medic units should make every attempt to transport to the Fire Departments assigned "home hospital".

****Home Hospital – Grandview Hospital

E. Documentation/Notification

1. All rerouting of patients should be documented on the EMS run sheet.
2. Crews already inbound to a facility with a patient should continue on to that facility. Crews should make contact with that facility via cellular phone or MARCS radio to advise them that they were already inbound and that they intend on continuing transport to that facility. Any rerouting that is necessary from this point should be conducted to the closest, most appropriate facility and all rerouting steps including names of nurses/doctors that provided orders to reroute should be documented on the EMS run sheet.
3. Any problems that occur with hospital staff regarding the assignment of a patient to their facility should be directed to the on-duty officer.

4. The on-duty officer shall notify the EMS Officer (or Chief Officer) of the problem.

F. Transport of Patients to the VA Medical Center

1. When transporting to the VA, EMS crews shall adhere to the following guidelines:
 - 1) The patient is an adult
 - 2) The patient requests transport to the VA **and**
 - 3) The patient has none of the excluded conditions listed below:

Excluded Conditions

Patients shall not be transported to the VA under the following conditions:

- a) The patient is a woman whose illness appears to be gynecological (i.e.: vaginal bleeding, sexual assault, etc.) or obstetrical (i.e.: maternity)
- b) The patient has significant trauma, head injury or a patient EMS has back boarded
- c) The patient, in the EMS crew's judgement, may have a surgical emergency (i.e.: abdominal pain with shock)
- d) The patient is exhibiting signs or symptoms of a myocardial infarction or acute stroke

Removals to the VA are intended primarily for veterans of the US military service, employees of the VA and visitors to the VA grounds. However, it is not the EMS crew's job to determine that status and any patient meeting the above guidelines may be transported to the VA.