



Central DuPage Hospital  
Emergency Medical Services System  
System Policy and Procedures

Title: Vehicle Service Level / In-Field Changes	
Section: Legal	Number: C-15
Approved By: Dr. Steve Graham, EMS Medical Director	
Effective Date: 01 July 2018	Number of Pages: 2

**PURPOSE:** To establish guidelines on the process of upgrading a level of care within the Central DuPage Hospital Emergency Medical Services System (CDHEMSS).

**POLICY:** Vehicle licensure level is set by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the CDHEMSS. Vehicles shall operate at the level to which they are licensed and the CDHEMSS is prior notified. Situations in which the licensed vehicle may operate outside its pre-approved level include:

1. Emergent conditions in which patient safety would be compromised
  - a. Vehicle failure
    - i. If the initial ambulance on the scene has a mechanical malfunction, and the nearest available ambulance is a license level lower than the initial, equipment may be moved into the lower licensed unit. This only applies if the on-scene crew feels that a delay in transport, or awaiting an equally licensed ambulance would cause a worse patient outcome
  - b. Critical care patient
    - i. If the patient has been evaluated by a critical care crew, and the patient's condition is deteriorating, the critical care crew may accompany the ALS crew with their necessary additional equipment in the ALS ambulance.
  - c. ALS / Critical Care intercept
    - i. CDHEMSS approved non-transport (N/T) vehicles, may field upgrade ambulances, when dictated by patient condition. This upgrade will be in compliance with the system plan on file with the CDHEMSS and only for vehicles as described within the CDHEMSS system plan.
2. Non-urgent vehicle licensure level changes
  - a. A licensed vehicle within the CDHEMSS may be upgraded from BLS to ALS when the following condition(s) are met:
    - i. The system has performed an ALS inspection
    - ii. If the change will be greater than 10 days, IDPH will need to be notified by use of a System Modification Form
  - b. A licensed vehicle within the CDHEMSS may be downgraded from ALS to BLS when the following condition(s) are met:
    - i. All ALS equipment, including medications have been removed
    - ii. If the change will be greater than 10 days, IDPH / CDHEMSS shall be notified.

**POLICY HISTORY:**

Effective Date	01 July 2018					
Review Date(s)						
Revision Date(s)						