



CENTRAL DUPAGE HOSPITAL  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM  
POLICY & PROCEDURES

TITLE: PATIENT DESTINATION

SECTION: LEGAL

POLICY NUMBER: C-9

APPROVED BY: DR. STEVE GRAHAM EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01 JULY 2018

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**PURPOSE:**

To ensure that patients are transported to destinations of their choice, and/or the nearest appropriate facility.

**POLICY:**

When transporting patients within the Central DuPage Hospital Emergency Medical Services System (CDHEMSS) the following situations shall apply:

1. Patient / Legal Guardian Choice

- a. Patients with a GCS of 15, or their legal guardian / Power of Attorney (POA) has the legal right to choose their destination. Nothing shall restrict a patient who has called for help to be transported to a destination of their choice (unless requested facility is on bypass or does not have an ER for 911 patients)

- i. EMS may transport to the desired ED without calling medical control if the following conditions exist

1. The patient has a GCS of 15, or the POA is on scene or contacted by crew
    2. No immediate life treats exist
    3. Vital signs
      - a. HR > 60 or <120
      - b. ECG is not V-tac, V-fib, SVT, 2<sup>nd</sup> degree blocks, 3<sup>rd</sup> degree blocks, or a STEMI
      - c. Spo2 is >92%
      - d. ETCO2 is >30 or < 55
      - e. Respirations are >10 and < 20
      - f. Patient has signed a refusal of recommended destination PRIOR to leave the scene
      - g. Crew is comfortable with the extended transport time
  - ii. If any of the above conditions are not met, the patient can still request transport to a destination of their choice, however, Medical Control shall be contacted PRIOR to transport for authorization.
    1. An ED Physician shall be consulted for approval.

- iii. If the responding 911 agency is unable to transport the patient to the requested facility, they must contact a private service to transport the patient. When requesting the private service:
        - 1. 911 must remain on scene with the patient until care is transferred
        - 2. The unit in which the patient is being transported must be an equal or higher level of care
      - iv. Patients who are altered shall be transported to the closest appropriate facility. Closest is measured by estimated transport time from the scene at the time of transport
- 2. No Patient / Legal Guardian preference
  - a. Non-Trauma
    - i. Patients / legal guardians who do not have a preference in which hospital they are transported to, shall be transported to the closest appropriate facility. Closest is measured by estimated transport time from the scene at the time of transport
  - b. Trauma
    - i. Patients who have met trauma bypass criteria based on Region 8 EMS SOPs shall be considered for bypass in accordance with SOPs

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