

Emergency Medical Dispatch

Standard:

- This standard establishes a uniform level of response for the EMS System and provide for the safest and most appropriate level of response to the patient(s)

Purpose:

- EMS Units and First Responders will be dispatched in accordance to the standards developed by the Medical Director and the Medical Priority Dispatch (MPD) Guidelines
- EMS Units and First Responders will respond Code 1 or Code 3 in accordance to MPD standards. As more information from EMS Communications or on scene medical responders becomes available, the response may be upgraded to Code 3 or downgraded to Code 1

Application:

1. EMS Units and First Responders dispatched for Code 1 response, will not upgrade to a Code 3 response unless:
 - The EMS Communications personnel determine that the patient's condition has changed and upgrades the incident to a Code 3 response
 - Public Safety personnel on-scene requests a Code 3 response
2. EMS Units and First Responders may be diverted from a lower priority incident (e.g., Priority 3, 4, or 5) to a higher priority incident (e.g., Priority 1 or 2) based on MPD Guideline, if the diversion provides a significant time savings.
3. The EMS unit or First Responder may divert their response if they come upon what appears to be a higher priority incident (e.g., en route to a Priority 3, 4 or 5 incident and comes upon an MVC with high potential for patients in need of trauma activation).
4. EMS Units and First Responders may by-pass what appears to be a lower priority incident and continue to the originally assigned incident. EMS Communications should be notified so that another EMS resource may be assigned to the lower priority incident.