

# West Michigan Regional Medical Control Consortium

## System Protocol Emergent Interfacility Transfer Policy

Date: October 2, 2020

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### ***WMRMCC – Emergent Interfacility Transfer Policy***

***Adopting MCAs will have an “X” under their MCA name. If no “X” is present, the MCA has not approved or adopted the protocol.***

Allegan	Barry	Clare	Ionia	Isabella	Kent	Mason
	X (on 5/24/21)		X		X	X
Montcalm	Muskegon	N. Central	Newaygo	Oceana	Ottawa	
X	X		X	X	X	

#### **A. Purpose**

The *Emergent Interfacility Transfer Policy* is intended to clearly define when ambulance services may consider requests from sending facilities, for the interfacility transfer of a patient, to qualify as an “emergency” and thus be handled as would a 9-1-1 scene call and use the last ambulance in their coverage area.

#### **B. Definitions**

For the purpose of this protocol, an “Emergency Interfacility Transfer” is for patients who are deemed:

- hemodynamically unstable, or
- critically ill, or injured with an immediate life, limb or sight threatening condition
- ***AND*** requiring an immediate *time-dependent intervention* that is not available at the sending facility.

#### **C. Policy**

1. If a sending facility contacts an ambulance service for the provision of an emergency interfacility patient transfer, they must complete the WMRMCC Interfacility Patient Transfer Checklist or similar form and send to transporting agency’s communication center or provide to the transporting ambulance.
2. An emergent request meeting the established criteria shall be prioritized as an emergent response for the ambulance for the purpose of resource assignment. Ambulances will respond without the use of lights and sirens unless the condition is unstable or deteriorating **AND** there is a need to circumvent significant traffic delays and obstructions.
3. First responders shall not be sent unless specifically requested by the sending facility.
4. The ambulance personnel transporting the patient shall adhere to the Lights and Siren for Transport protocol. The sending facility has no authority to define the mode of transport.
5. Any request for emergent transfer determined to be based upon non-factual information for the purposes of obtaining faster transfer service for a non-emergent patient shall result in notification of the local medical control authority.
6. If an Emergency Interfacility Transfer is called to a local ambulance service, and that ambulance service does not have the capacity to respond to the transfer in a timely manner, as they would an emergency call, then a mutual aid ambulance may be requested by the local ambulance service, dispatch, or the sending facility to facilitate the emergent interfacility transfer, per MCA approved process.