

## HELICOPTER SAFETY REFERENCE

### LANDING ZONE (LZ) SELECTION:

Figure A.3: LZ Selection

<p><b>Size:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Daytime: 75'x 75' minimum</li> <li>✓ Nighttime: 100'x 100' minimum</li> </ul>	<p><b>LZ Surface:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Relatively smooth and flat (&lt; 7°)</li> <li>✓ Clear of obstacles, trees, and loose debris</li> </ul>
<p><b>Identify obstacles, Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Poles</li> <li>✓ Wire</li> <li>✓ Obstacles that may interfere with landing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mark the LZ:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Overhead emergency light bars</li> <li>✓ Flares, with caution</li> <li>✓ Portable strobe lights or beacons</li> <li>✓ Automobile headlights on dim, turned off when helicopter approaches LZ Mark and requested by pilot.</li> <li>✓ Mark obstacles and poles with overhead wires with spotlights</li> </ul>

**COMMUNICATIONS:** As ETA approaches, call Northwest MedStar on designated frequency and provide pilot with location of obstacles, direction and speed of wind and surface information.

### DIRECTING HELICOPTER TO THE SCENE:

- ✓ Advise pilot when you hear and/or see aircraft
- ✓ Give pilot scene direction relative to helicopter, e.g., "We are at your (meaning the helicopter's) three o'clock position" or "We are north of your position"
- ✓ Advise pilot when the aircraft is directly overhead
- ✓ Give brief patient update to medical crew

**SAFETY:**

**Figure A4: Helicopter Landing Do's and Don'ts**

<b>Do's</b>	<b>DON'TS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ <b>Wear</b> hearing protection.</li> <li>➔ <b>Keep</b> all personnel back 200 feet from an approaching or departing aircraft.</li> <li>➔ <b>Secure</b> loose clothing.</li> <li>➔ <b>Protect</b> yourself and the patient from rotor wash.</li> <li>➔ <b>Be aware</b> of the possibility of a significant wind chill factor.</li> <li>➔ <b>Assign</b> tail rotor guards to both sides at the 3 o'clock, 9 o'clock, and within eye contact of the pilot, to keep onlookers and other personnel away from tail rotor.</li> <li>➔ <b>Assist</b> Northwest MedStar crew with loading as directed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊘ <b>Do not</b> approach the aircraft unless directed by the MedStar crew .</li> <li>⊘ <b>Do not</b> approach from the rear of the aircraft, near the tail rotor. Maintain visual contact with pilot, at all times.</li> <li>⊘ <b>Never</b> approach the aircraft if the rotors are still moving.</li> <li>⊘ <b>Do not</b> approach from the uphill side of a sloped landing zone.</li> <li>⊘ <b>Do not</b> smoke or run within 200 feet of the aircraft.</li> <li>⊘ <b>Do not</b> bring any vehicle within 75 feet of the aircraft.</li> <li>⊘ <b>Do not</b> use any part of the aircraft as a handhold.</li> </ul>