

## EMS COMMUNICATION TO RECEIVING HOSPITAL

### EMS COMMUNICATION TO HOSPITALS FOR ALERTS/PRE-NOTIFICATION

**Purpose:** To use clear and consistent terminology to communicate the facts required to allow for optimal hospital response to established Time Critical Emergencies. Phone call by land line or cell phone to the receiving hospital prior to transport is recommended. However, transport should not be delayed for patients with:

- ✓ Major Trauma
- ✓ Acute Coronary Syndromes (ACS)
- ✓ Acute Stroke
- ✓ Sepsis
- ✓ Vascular emergencies

Please provide your:

- ✓ Unit identification
- ✓ Category of emergency
  - Trauma
  - ACS
  - Stroke
  - Sepsis
  - Vascular emergency
  - Hazmat code

### TRAUMA

- ✓ Code Red: Trauma Alert (patients meeting Step 1 or Step 2 criteria)
- ✓ Code Yellow: Trauma Alert (patients meeting Step 3 or Step 4 criteria)
- ✓ **Washington State Trauma Triage Destination Procedures**

In report called to the receiving hospital, include:

- ✓ Age
- ✓ Gender
- ✓ Mechanism of injury

- ✓ Obvious anatomic injuries
- ✓ Vital signs (to include lowest systolic BP)
- ✓ GCS
- ✓ Whether patient takes blood thinners

### **ACUTE CORONARY SYNDROME (ACS)**

Code Red: ACS Alert followed by:

- ✓ ACS STEMI
- ✓ ACS Post Arrest (ROSC)

Code Yellow: ACS ALERT

- ✓ ACS High Risk

(The EMT or Paramedic may upgrade to Code Red based upon their judgement.)

If possible, place call to hospital by land line or cell phone and provide the following information:

- ✓ Patient name
- ✓ DOB
- ✓ Code Status (POLST)
- ✓ Cardiologist
- ✓ ST abnormalities
- ✓ And if CPA-ROSC, include initial rhythm and duration of CPR

### **STROKE**

- ✓ Code Red: Stroke Alert  
Last known well < 6 hours OR < 2 hours since the patient awoke with a stroke (Wake Up Stroke)
- ✓ Code Yellow: Stroke Alert
- ✓ Last known well > 6 hours

In report called to the receiving hospital, include:

- ✓ Age
- ✓ Gender
- ✓ Symptoms\*
- ✓ Vital signs
- ✓ F.A.S.T.
- ✓ Stroke Severity Score
- ✓ Blood Glucose<sup>†</sup>

### **SEPSIS**

- ✓ Code Red: Sepsis Alert

In report called to the receiving hospital, include:

- ✓ Age
- ✓ Gender
- ✓ Vital signs including temperature
- ✓ History of fever or infection

### **VASCULAR**

- ✓ Code Red: Vascular Alert

In report called to the receiving hospital, include:

- ✓ Age
- ✓ Gender
- ✓ Vital signs
- ✓ Focal anatomy affected
- ✓ Time of onset

### **HAZMAT CODE:**

- ✓ Code Red
- ✓ Code Yellow
- ✓ Code Green

In report called to the receiving hospital, include:

- ✓ Age and sex of patient
- ✓ Chief complaint or reason for transport
- ✓ Very brief pertinent medical history (one sentence if possible)
- ✓ Vital signs and level of consciousness
- ✓ Pertinent treatment rendered and results, if any
- ✓ Request for additional information or treatment
- ✓ Estimated time of arrival

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\*If patient's symptoms completely resolve (TIA), notify the hospital ASAP.

†Consider early notification of hospital ASAP and provide patient I.D.