

## Procedure for Mass Gatherings/Standby's

### PURPOSE

This policy is intended to assist EMS personnel, in the event of a large gathering of people for a specific purpose, in deciding whether to treat a patient on scene or to encourage transportation of the patient by an ambulance or private vehicle to a medical facility for further evaluation.

### PROCEDURE

1. Provide basic first aid for the following and release patient if he/she wishes:
  - A) Minor abrasions and lacerations.
  - B) Contusions
  - C) Sprains or strains
  - D) Minor heat illnesses
2. Provide screening exam for questionable patients to rule out a serious medical problem:
  - A) Take vital signs and record.
  - B) Provide a full patient assessment as a primary survey.
3. Any patient that does not fall within the criteria of the categories above should be transported. Some patients that would require transport to a medical facility would be as follows:
  - A) Head / Spinal injuries
  - B) Cardiac signs or symptoms, chest pain
  - C) Asthma Attacks / Shortness of breath
  - D) Large lacerations
    - May stabilize and send by private vehicle only if bleeding / pain are under control and patient has distal circulation, movement and sensation in the extremity.
  - E) Fractures
    - May stabilize and send by private vehicle only if patient is not in acute pain and patient has distal circulation, movement and sensation in the extremity.
  - F) Dehydration with unstable vital signs
  - G) Heat / Cold illness with unstable vital signs
  - H) Anaphylaxis / Bee stings with known allergies
  - I) Diabetics with extremely low or high blood sugars
  - J) Any drug or alcohol overdoses. Law enforcement should also become involved.
4. Consult with medical control for any questions relating to patient care or transportation.
5. In the event of multiple casualty incidents, which are deemed suspicious by EMS personnel, patients should be evacuated from the immediate area of the incident as quickly as possible. It may be necessary to move these patients without the provision of cervical spine precautions and other treatments more typically used on a daily basis. Following the evacuation to the secondary site, patients should be transported as quickly as possible to the receiving hospital. While en route, standard care should be administered to the patient whenever possible and appropriate. Where feasible, EMS personnel should be trained on the recognition of secondary explosive devices, and they should always be watchful for these devices whenever the potential for their use exists.

### SPECIAL NOTES

1. Document all patients treated and released on the treatment form.
2. Obtain a refusal form for any patient that EMS feels should be treated further or even transported, but the patient refuses either.
3. All minors refusing treatment and or transport against EMS advice must be cleared and released to a parent or guardian or otherwise competent adult.



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