

Physician at Scene

PURPOSE

This policy is intended to assure adequate pre-hospital patient care, and maintenance of professional courtesy among physicians and pre-hospital personnel when a physician is present at the scene of an emergency.

PROCEDURE

1. Medical control should be notified as soon as possible that there is a physician on scene.
2. Ambulance personnel responsibilities:
 - A) Identify self to the physician.
 - B) Inquire about area of specialty and whether physician is licensed to practice in the state of WI. If the physician does not have a WI license, he/she cannot assume the responsibility of the patient or medical control for River Falls Area Ambulance. The physician may be used as a bystander or assist with packaging patient. (Follow E below)
 - C) Inquire if the WI licensed physician wishes to be responsible for the patient. If so, explain the following procedures the physician must follow:
 1. Instruct and supervise the ambulance personnel on scene
 2. Physician must accompany patient in the ambulance to the hospital
 3. Any crew doubts or questions about the on scene physician's orders should be clarified through medical control.
 - D) If the WI licensed physician does not claim responsibility, the crew shall thank the physician for his/her assistance and follow the service's existing policies, procedures and guidelines.
 - E) If the WI licensed physician wishes to assist only:
 1. Existing service medical control, policies, procedures, and guidelines apply. The physician at scene has no medical control over the service.
 2. Physician at scene is not required to accompany patient to hospital.

SPECIAL NOTES

1. Document the identification of any on-scene physician that participates in patient care.
2. Get a photocopy of license or document WI license number.



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