



## Policy 609: Base Station Guidelines

Revision 5/22/18  
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- I. For purposes of Medical Control paramedics and EMTs must contact the Base Hospital in the following circumstances:
  - A. To administer medications or provide treatment restricted to medical control per protocols.
  - B. For patients who have decided against transportation and fit the conditions listed in Policy #608 Patient Refusal of Care Against Medical Advice or Release-At Scene.
  - C. To obtain field pronouncements.
  - D. For complicated scenarios not otherwise addressed by existing policies and protocols
  - E. When trauma patients meet criteria for Base Hospital consultation as specified in Policy #625 Trauma Patient Transport and Hospital Destination.
- II. For purposes of Medical Consult Paramedics and EMTs should contact the Base Station when support of the Base Station staff would assist in resolving an on-scene conflict with the patient or other agencies.
- III. Paramedics and EMTs unable to contact the Base Hospital due to communication failure will report this event on the PCR in the appropriate section.
- IV. Radio-Call-In Formats are needed so that Base Hospital staff will be assured of getting necessary information to prepare for a patient. In addition, a radio-call-in can also help determine which facility is best to receive a patient. When contacting the Base Hospital, the following information will be presented during the call-in, regardless of what format you are using.
  - Unit Identifier
  - Med channel being used (when not using cellular or land line communication)
  - Patient Status Level (see Policy 621 *Patient Acuity Guidelines*)
  - Type of call-in (Notification, Consult, or Medical Control)
  - Paramedics and EMTs attending
  - Age and Gender
  - ETA and code of transport
  - Relevant patient information.
- V. Types of Call-ins:
  - A. Hospital Notification
    1. Meant to prepare the ED staff for the patient's arrival
    2. Make this call as soon as possible during transport
    3. Include relevant patient detail, for example:



- a) Patient on a backboard
- b) Family members onboard
- c) Patient being ventilated
- d) Exclude irrelevant information

B. Base Station Consult

- 1. The goal is to develop a plan in concert with the Base Hospital
- 2. The Base Hospital becomes part of your problem-solving process
- 3. You are seeking advice, for example, difficult non-transport situations
- 4. When disagreements arise among on scene providers regarding the appropriate treatment for a patient

C. Medical Control

- 1. You are seeking an order from the Base Hospital
- 2. Be very explicit about what you are looking for in the beginning of the call-in; do not make the Base Hospital guess what you are trying to do.

D. Trauma Triage (Policy 625 *Trauma Patient Transport and Destination* and Policy 626 *Trauma Triage*)

- 1. Trauma Triage call-ins are a specific subset of the Base Station Consult format. Trauma Triage call-ins are designed to help field personnel reach a destination decision in coordination with the Base Station on Trauma patients that meet only Yellow criteria or who don't meet clear destination criteria as defined in Policy 625 and 626.
- 2. You should provide the Base Station with the following information:
  - a) Which trauma criteria are met
    - (1) Note: in accordance with Policy 625 only Yellow criteria patients are eligible for local transport. Unless in extremis, physiologic and/or Anatomic criteria require transportation to a local trauma center either by air or by ground, whichever is most expeditious.
    - (2) Air transport may be preferred over ground when CCT-RN level of care is needed on the scene.
  - b) A detailed description of the mechanism and special criteria, if any.
  - c) A complete head to toe exam including relevant findings and/or pertinent negatives for all body systems.
  - d) A detailed overview of the patient's physiologic status including a complete set of



vital signs.

- e) Any applicable co-morbidities.
- f) Other relevant information.

VI. Trauma Call-in Format

- "(Facility) Base, this is (Unit Identifier) on (Radio Channel) with Trauma Triage traffic."
- "We are currently (on scene, enroute) with a (age/gender) who is a trauma patient."
- "Patient does/not meet Red criteria from Policy 626 if applicable). Vital signs are as follows: Required vital signs are HR, RR, BP, Cap Refill, Skin color/condition, and LOC." Optional vital signs are SaO<sub>2</sub>, EKG, etc. "Patient exam is as follows: Head-Neck-Chest-Abdomen-Back-Pelvis-Lower Extremities-Upper Extremities with description of all findings and/or pertinent negatives for each body system."
- "Patient does/not Yellow criteria (list specific Yellow criteria from Policy 626, if applicable) due to (describe the mechanism in detail)."
- "Patient does/not special conditions criteria (list/describe patient co-morbidities if applicable)."
- "We think that (ground/air) transport to (local facility/trauma center) would be appropriate for this patient."
- "How/Where would you like this patient transported?"