

Clinical Guidelines & Procedures

These Clinical Guidelines and Procedures have been developed as a collaborative effort and are intended to provide a suggested level of care. When available, scientific evidence has been diligently evaluated and incorporated into these guidelines. When the evidence was lacking, we have relied on best practices, expert advice, and consensus to guide the development of this document.

Many variables are involved in out-of-hospital patient care, and as such providers are expected to exercise good medical judgment and take action, within their respective scope and practice, in the best interest of the patient. The risks and benefits of any intervention, including the time required to perform it, must be considered. Frequently, simple observation and rapid transport is the best course of action. Therefore, this document should be used as a guideline only, and in no way prohibits prudent medical treatment.

In addition, due to a broad range of training, experience, and EMS resources available, we understand it may not always be feasible to undertake the full extent of specific guidelines. To that end, these guidelines should not be construed as rigid and linear.

As approved by the Supervising Physician, EMS agencies may adopt or omit approved medications, procedures, or equipment based on the needs of their individual jurisdictions. In these cases, providers should apply the guidelines in accordance with their training, and experience, utilizing available resources, including on-line medical consultation, to provide the best possible patient care.

These clinical guidelines and procedures apply only to those licensed EMS responders affiliated with agencies I supervise and only while operating within the scope and course of their official duties. Furthermore, a complex document such as this is prone to errors. Please review the guidelines carefully and route any potential errors, unclear directions, or suggestions for improvement to the agency's respective EMS administrator.

Finally, we would like to thank all providers for your continued dedication and commitment to the provision of high quality Emergency Medical Services to the citizens we serve.



Russ McUne M.D. Supervising Physician

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