



Hot Topics



The Genesee County Medical Control Authority's

Newsletter for EMS Providers - Also now available online at GCMCA.org

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Trauma Destination 1 & 2 Centers are the Same

We recently had a case where EMS personnel transported a trauma patient to a Level 1 trauma center and bypassed a closer Level 2 facility because they believed that it was a higher level of care. The Trauma Triage, Transport, and Destination protocol states that Level 1 AND Level 2 Trauma Centers possess "resources to treat the most severely injured patients."

There are some protocol exceptions to this expectation. For certain burns and pregnancy traumas, patients are to be transported to Hurley Medical Center unless there is a potential for imminent death and a closer facility can stabilize the patient.

Specifically, for burns, the protocol states "patients with greater than 5 percent 3rd degree; or greater than 15 percent 2nd degree; or respiratory burns; or burns involving hands, feet, face, perineum." And for pregnancy it is any significant trauma in patients who are greater than 20 weeks gestation.

Traumas can be the most intense experiences EMS personnel can encounter, so having this information and understanding where the patient is to be transported can make a huge difference in the outcome of the patient.



Fluid Volume Documentation

Note it in the dropdown box and in the narrative

In a recent review of cases where paramedics administered fluids, it was found that in many instances only the dropdown box for administration was documented. In these cases it is believed that the patient received the full volume of fluid unless the total volume is also documented in the run record narrative.

For example, if you hang a one liter bag of normal saline and the patient has receive 200ml by the time you arrive at the hospital, the actual volume administered should be noted in the narrative in addition to the dropdown that will state you hung a one liter bag.

This information is helpful for the hospital and future evaluation of patient treatment in the pre-hospital setting.

Mystery Picture Contest!!

If you can correctly identify where this picture is located you could win a \$10 gift card.

Hint: It is somewhere in Genesee County.

Be the first person to contact us with the correct answer and you will win. To submit an answer you must email us at btrevithick@gcmcdcontrol.org.

