

**Genesee County Medical Control Authority
SYSTEM**

MCA AND HOSPITAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Initial Date: July 9, 2025

Section: 8-48

MCA and Hospital Responsibilities

Purpose:

This protocol defines the responsibilities of each administrative segment of the Medical Control Authority system. These segments include the Medical Control Authority itself; the hospitals and freestanding emergency departments (FSED) providing on-line medical direction; and the EMS agencies providing direct EMS services to the public.

- I. Responsibilities of the Medical Control Authority
 - A. The Medical Control Authority is responsible for providing medical oversight for EMS. Hospitals are responsible for administering the Medical Control Authority.
 - B. The Medical Control Authority will issue protocols, with Department approval, as defined by Part 209 of P.A. 368 of 1978, as amended, that reflect current medical practice and address issues as necessary to assure quality pre-hospital patient care.
 - C. In cooperation with the EMS agencies, the Medical Control Authority will coordinate training to implement protocols not included in initial EMS education.
 - D. Ensure that all significantly affected parties in the MCA will have sixty-days' notice for protocol changes (aside from emergency protocols).
 - E. The Medical Control Authority will establish a Professional Standards Review Organization (PSRO).
 - a. PSRO will implement a system wide Continuous Quality Improvement program.
 - b. PSRO will provide an impartial, fair and medically appropriate peer review process.
 - F. The Medical Control Authority will forward to the Department within (1) business day any ODA issued to a licensee that restricts their ability to practice (i.e., suspension or revocation of MCA privileges)

- II. Responsibilities of Participating Hospitals and Free Standing Emergency Departments (FSED) Providing On-Line Medical Direction
 - A. A hospital or FSED within the Medical Control Authority system providing on-line medical direction to EMS providers will assure that any physician or physician designee authorized to provide such direction:
 - a. Has access to the current MCA approved protocols
 - b. Provides medical direction consistent with MCA approved protocols.
 - B. Each hospital or FSED providing on-line medical direction will encourage the participation of a representative of its Emergency Department physician staff with the Medical Control Authority.
 - C. Hospitals or FSEDs are responsible for providing initial education to their Emergency Department physicians and staff on GCMCA protocols. In addition they will promptly inform them of Medical Control Authority policy and protocol changes.

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III. Shared Data and Information

- A. According to the state EMS act the hospitals in an MCA geographic service area are responsible for administering the MCA. As such, the view of this relationship is that the MCA is an extension of the participating hospitals.
- B. Periodically the GCMCA PSRO reviews incidents and conducts studies that would benefit from hospital data, documents, and other materials. When this occurs the GCMCA will request this information from the hospital as part of the confidential, peer review process that is protected by law. Hospitals will make every effort to provide the requested data.
- C. Despite the relationship between the MCA and hospital as outlined in state law, if a hospital would like further guarantees of the protection of personal health information the two entities will work to develop a Business Associate Agreement (BAA) as outlined in HIPAA.
- D. During active incidents (e.g. missing person, MCI), hospitals will verify with EMS and/or law enforcement if individuals involved in these incidents are at or being treated at the hospital.

IV. Accountability

- A. The Department designates the Medical Control Authority for a specific geographic area. As such, the Medical Control Authority is accountable to the Department in the performance of its duties.
- B. The hospitals and possibly the FSEDs within the Medical Control Authority system collectively administer this Medical Control Authority. Each individual hospital and FSED that receives emergency patients by ambulance is accountable to the Medical Control Authority to meet the responsibilities listed above. Failure to meet those responsibilities may result in a termination of the ability of a hospital or FSED to provide on-line medical direction or receive emergency patients (by ambulance).