

Safe Transport of Patients

Standard:

To provide a safe method of transporting patients within an ambulance and protect the EMS system and personnel from potential harm and liability associated with the transportation of patients.

Purpose:

Without special considerations patients are at risk of injury when transported by EMS. EMS must provide appropriate stabilization and protection to all patients during EMS transport.

Application:

1. Drive cautiously at safe speeds observing traffic laws unless patient condition requires emergent transport in accordance with operational standards on emergency response/transport.
2. Tightly secure all monitoring devices and other equipment.
3. Whenever possible, ensure that all pediatric patient less than 40 lbs are restrained with an approved child restraint device secured as per manufacturer's instructions if not secured by other means as part of patient care.
4. Whenever possible, do not transport the pediatric patient who meets trauma activation criteria in a child seat that was involved in the collision.
5. Ensure that all EMS personnel use the available provider restraint systems during transport when not otherwise engaged in patient care activities.
6. Transport adults and children who are not patients, properly restrained, in an alternate passenger vehicle, whenever possible.
7. Do not allow parents, caregivers, or other passengers to be unrestrained during transport.
8. Whenever possible, do not hold or allow the parents or caregivers to hold pediatric patients during transport.