

REGIONS HOSPITAL EMS	
POLICY/PROCEDURE: Physician at Scene	Page 1 of 1
ISSUED BY: Medical Director	No. 09-117
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PURPOSE:

To assure adequate prehospital patient care, and maintenance of professional courtesy among physicians and prehospital personnel when a physician is present at the scene of an emergency.

POLICY:

Medical control should be notified as early as possible in the communication that there is a physician at the scene.

1. Ambulance Personnel Responsibilities:
 - A. Identify self to the physician.
 - B. Inquire if physician is licensed to practice medicine in Minnesota and area of specialty.
 1. Obtain physician's state identification number and document it on run sheet.
 - C. Inquire if physician wishes to be responsible for patient. If so, explain that physician at scene must:
 1. Instruct/supervise prehospital personnel at scene.
 2. Accompany patient in ambulance to hospital.
 - D. Document the identification of any on-scene physician that participates in patient care.
2. Physician at Scene Responsibilities:
 - A. If physician declines responsibility, prehospital personnel should follow established guidelines.
 - B. If physician accepts responsibility:
 1. Medical control is notified of physician at scene.
 2. No monitoring medical control physician is necessary.
 3. Telemetry or radio communications are maintained.
 4. Physician at scene accompanies patient to hospital.
 - C. If physician wishes to assist only:
 1. Communicates with medical control physician, however, physician at scene has no medical control.
 2. Physician at scene is not required to accompany patient to hospital.

SPECIAL NOTES:

1. If a physician makes requests of EMS personnel in a clinical (e.g. hospital, clinic or nursing home) setting that are contrary to these guidelines or appear, in the EMS personnel's judgment, to be contrary to the patient's best interests, EMS personnel should request that the physician carry out those orders or consult with a medical control physician. Once the on-scene physician is no longer physically present, EMS personnel should follow established care guidelines.