

# Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

## A-10 ABANDONMENT / TRANSFER OF CARE

### ALS/ILS/BLS

#### Responsibility of Care:

- Once a patient has received ALS, ILS or BLS level care, he/she is under the direct care of the Medical Control physician.
  - Once the orders have been given to load and transport, Medical Control or transporting ambulance crew will notify the receiving hospital and relay the following information:
    - Chief complaint
    - History
    - Patient condition
    - Treatment and response
    - ETA to receiving facility

#### Treatment/Transport – Transfer of Care:

- ALS personnel must not leave a patient if there exists a need for continuing medical care that must be provided by persons with Paramedic level skills.
- ILS personnel must not leave a patient if there exists a need for continuing medical care that must be provided by persons with AEMT/Intermediate level skills.
- ALS/ILS personnel cannot initiate care/treatment then turn patient care over to a lower level of care unit/personnel **unless** the patient requests transport to a hospital outside the provider service area **and** the agency is a tiered service as outlined in the Transport Destination / Bypass Policy.
  - When allowing an EMT to be primary care provider on ALS/ILS ambulance,
    - The ALS/ILS crew member must complete an ALS/ILS assessment and determine the patient is appropriate for BLS care.
      - The higher level assessment must be documented on the patient care report (PCR).

#### Mutual Aid Response/Multiple Units at Scene:

- One EMS crew member shall assume charge and control of the scene. This is usually by the first responding unit.
  - If you are an additional arriving unit, follow the Incident Command System.
- Before care of the patient is turned over to another unit/EMS crew, the level of care must be at the same level or higher.
  - On large scale incidents, this will be validated through the transport branch of ICS.
- EMS providers who initiate care and treatment at the scene and leave when assistance is needed jeopardize patient care and may be held liable for abandonment of care.