Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

Variances in Standard Operating Procedures for Inclement Weather
Version 02

DURATION: JANUARY 10, 2025, 1000 HRS. to JANUARY 11, 2025, 2300 HRS.

- EMS will operate from standing medical orders and protocols during inclement weather events affecting Southern Illinois, January 10-11, 2025.
  - EMS agencies will be allowed to refrain from regular contact with Medical Control on calls where the EMS personnel do not need guidance or medical direction.
    - EMS will continue to early activate Code STEMI and Code Stroke calls.

- Notifications of pending arrival to receiving hospitals (call-ins) should be abbreviated.
  - Make call-ins short and to the point during any inclement weather event.

- Refusals may be accepted by EMS personnel without consult from Medical Control.
  - It is encouraged to contact Medical Control on very high risk refusals or when you believe alcohol and/or drugs are onboard.

- During high volume times or dangerous travel conditions, EMS may consult with Medical Control to triage non-urgent ambulance transport requests.
  - If an ambulance is requested for transport to the emergency department for a non-urgent transport request, the patient's transport can be delayed using the following steps:
    - The request should only be considered during times of high call volumes and/or issues with traffic/travel conditions.
    - The patient will receive a full assessment.
    - Contact Medical Control and share the assessment and history findings.
    - The ED Physician will make the final decision on whether the transport will occur immediately or be delayed.

- First Responder non-transport agencies will be able to obtain refusals from patients during the timeframes the inclement weather protocol is enacted.
  - FRD personnel must contact Medical Control on refusal calls.
  - FRD personnel must document refusals on the SIREMS system refusal forms.

- Because of the size and projected path of this storm front, all SIREMS agencies are included in this interim inclement weather protocol.