

## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 15, 2016

**TO:** All Muskegon County Life Support Agencies and Providers

**FROM:** Chad Lawton, MCA Coordinator

**SUBJ:** **Basic Life Support Transport**

The Medical Control Authority (MCA) supports the implementation of Basic Life Support (BLS) transport for the purpose of non-critical interfacility transfers. The intent of implementing BLS transporting capability within the MCA is to relieve pressure on the 911 system within Muskegon County by identifying interfacility transfers that do not require Advanced Life Support (ALS) level of care and assign those calls to BLS transport ambulances, enabling ALS ambulances to respond to more urgent, higher acuity transfers and 911 calls.

### **Important Facts**

1. Current protocols allow for BLS treatment and transport.
2. Any Life Support Agency (LSA) choosing to adopt BLS transport must still meet ALS response requirements (i.e., 8 minutes or less for 80% and 10 minutes or less for 90% of all priority 1s). The intent is to decrease response times.
3. Any LSA choosing to adopt BLS transport will be required to comply with the language outlined in the Medical Control Privileges Protocol.
4. All EMTs who staff a BLS transporting ambulance will be required to successfully complete a written MCA protocol test, once implemented.
5. The intent is for BLS transporting ambulances to respond only to non-critical interfacility transfers. In rare instances where a BLS transporting ambulance is the closest available unit to a priority (1) 911 call, that ambulance should be dispatched to that call. Initiate ALS response for transport, or intercept, without delaying transport.
6. EMTs may maintain crystalloid IV solutions during interfacility transfer. The IV must be either locked or set to a KVO rate. The EMT may not adjust an IV drip rate.
7. EMTs may NOT transport patients with a Patient-Controlled Analgesia (PCA) pump.

If you have any questions, please contact Chad Lawton at 231-728-1621 or [clawton@wmrmc.org](mailto:clawton@wmrmc.org).