

**South Metro Fire Department**  
**Clinical Policies and Procedures**

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Title: Physician on Scene  
Effective Date: December 15, 2015  
Authorized By: Keith Wesley, MD Medical Director  
Standard: Patient Care and Transport  
Policy: HEMT/SMFD providers may allow patient care to be directed by an on-scene physician under specific and approved circumstances.

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I. **Purpose**

To explain the circumstances under which a physician on an emergency scene may direct patient care.

II. **Definitions**

- A. **Personal Physician**: is a physician who has previously established a doctor-patient relationship with the patient. This does not include a physician who is acting as a coach, trainer, or participant in a patient's athletic program.
- B. **Intervener Physician**: is a physician unknown to the patient who presents at the scene with the intent to provide care to the patient.

III. **Procedure**

- A. HEMT Clinicians must do the following:
  - 1) Introduce themselves to the physician on scene..
  - 2) Request proof of the physician's identity and Minnesota medical license.

**Patient's Personal Physician On-Scene**

- A. Verify that physician is the patient's Personal Physician..
- B. Follow any orders provided by the physician to the extent that the orders are in compliance with HEMT Patient Care Guidelines.
- C. In the event of a disagreement between the Personal Physician and HEMT/SMFD providers;
  - 1. Contact HEMT Medical Control and request they speak directly to the Personal Physician.
  - 2. If any disagreement persists between the Personal Physician and Medical Control the Personal Physician must either;
    - a) Continue to provide direct patient care **AND** accompany patient to the hospital.
    - b) Defer all care to the on-scene HEMT/SMFD providers and Medical Control.

**Intervener Physician On-Scene**

- A. Provide the Intervener Physician with a copy of the On Scene Physician card.
- B. If Intervener Physician agrees to the requirement list on the On Scene Physician card contact HEMT Medical Control. Medical Control has the option to;
  - 1. Request that HEMT/SMFD providers maintain exclusive control of patient care.
  - 2. Approve the assistance of the Intervener Physician with patient care.
  - 3. Allow the Intervener Physician to assume complete responsibility for the patient.
  - 4. The Intervener Physician may, with agreement of HEMT Medical Control, be allowed to not accompany the patient to the hospital in the ambulance.

**IV. Documentation**

- A. Document the identification of any on-scene physician that participates in patient care.
- B. Document the delivery of the Medical Miranda Card to the Intervener Physician.
- C. Document all contacts with HEMT Medical Control.

**V. Special Notes**

- A. Medical Miranda Card (stored in ambulance clipboard)


**THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFER OF ASSISTANCE**

This Emergency Medical Services team is operating under Minnesota law and policy established jointly by the EMSRB and the HealthEast EMS Medical Director. The EMS team is functioning under the command of the base hospital physician.

If you wish to assist as a physician, you must agree to all of the terms on the opposite side of this card. By releasing care to the EMS team, you are NOT abandoning the patient.

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 HealthEast Medical Transportation Medical Director  
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To serve as an on-scene medical control physician, you must agree to all of the following:

- Provide evidence that you are a licensed MD or DO in Minnesota;
- Obtain permission from the Medical Control Physician to assume responsibility for this patient;
- Have the skills and knowledge to manage an emergency patient;
- Agree to accompany the patient to the hospital in the ambulance, and
- Sign the Patient Care Report after patient care is complete.

If you cannot fulfill all of these requirements, please allow the EMS providers to treat this patient without interference.

Previous Versions: