

	<p style="text-align: center;">SOUTHERN FOX VALLEY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM POLICY & PROCEDURES</p>	
<p>TITLE: MULTIPLE PATIENT RELEASE FORM (MPR)</p>		
<p>SECTION: GENERAL POLICIES</p>	<p>POLICY NUMBER: D-7.0</p>	
<p>APPROVED BY: DR. ARTHUR PROUST EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR</p>		
<p>EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/07/2001</p>		<p>PAGE NUMBER: 1 OF 2</p>

PURPOSE:

1. To provide a method of releasing multiple adult patients who are refusing assessment, treatment and/or transport from the care of the EMS System at the scene of a Multiple Patient Incident (MPI).
2. Explain the system guidelines for actions to be taken in the event that the MPI involves minors.

POLICY:

1. The Multiple Patient Release form (MPR) (appendix E3) may be used in incidents involving multiple people, when the individuals are:
 - A. Adult (18 y.o. or older or a minor who meets the criteria in D8 section B1)
 - B. Patients under 16 years of age where the parents and/or guardian is present. (unless Medical Control approves)
 - C. Alert, oriented and competent
 - D. Voluntarily refusing assessment, treatment and/or transport
 - E. Stating that they are **NOT** seriously ill or injured.
 - F. Exhibit no apparent signs or symptoms.
2. All individuals involved at the scene of a MPI are to be encouraged by emergency care providers to accept assessment, treatment and transport. The System encourages the use of the standard release forms in most situations. The MPR should be used when: A) large numbers of patients are present (2 or more patients) and /or B) circumstances arise where the EMS personnel do not have the capability of filling out the standard forms.
3. When utilizing the MPR form, pre-hospital personnel are not mandated to contact Medical Control unless a **minor** patient (anyone under the age of 18) is present. If a question or doubt exists, they always have the option to contact Medical Control. This should be done PRIOR to release of the patient(s).

PROCEDURE:

1. Attempt to examine all involved individuals per System guidelines. Every individual involved must be offered medical assistance and transportation.
2. If multiple people resist or refuse care and meet criteria listed above:
 - A. Encourage them once again to allow treatment/transport, explaining that although they feel that they are uninjured or mildly injured at present (i.e. Minor extremity soft tissue or muscle-skeletal injuries), they may have serious injuries, which are not apparent, that could result in death/disability.
 - B. Ask the individuals to provide the necessary information and sign the form.
 - C. Complete one EMS run sheet for the incident and document the fact that a MPR form was used. Choose Treatment – No Transport or No Treatment - No Transport in the patient disposition area.
 - D. In the patient information area use Release for the last name and Multi Patient for the first. List the age of one of the adult patients.
 - E. In the narrative section of the EMS run sheet put total number of patients. Also explain to each person that you have on the MPR. (Example Pt. #1 40-year-old female with no

complaints, Pt. #2 30 year old male minor laceration to the right hand, etc....) These numbers should correspond with the numbers on the MPR form.

3. If any patient refuses to sign a refusal or provide necessary information, documentation should clearly reflect the circumstances, and a regular refusal of care form should be used for this patient.
4. The “general comments” section may be used for information such as quotes from the patient, instructions given the patient, unusual occurrences, minor complaints/injuries, etc.
5. A standard (individual) refusal of care form and a run sheet should be filled out for each patient who does not meet the above criteria. (D 6 Treat/Non-Transport and Refusals)
6. If an adult, competent patient refuses care, although medical control does not approve of his/her release, the patient should sign a standard (individual) refusal of care form (appendix E4) and a run report should be filled out, clearly documenting the events of the incident.

MINORS

1. A minor is any individual who is under the age of 18 years old, unless the minor is less than 16 y.o. and meets the criteria in Policy D8 section B1.
2. Minors between the age of 16 and 18 that meet the criteria list in Policy D 6.0 section B2 are allowed to sign for themselves, but medical control MUST be called, and medical control approve prior to them being allowed to sign.
3. Medical Control must be contacted whenever a minor is involved in a refusal, even if the parent or legal guardian is willing to sign the refusal. Medical Control must be contacted PRIOR to releasing the minor(s) from the scene
4. Only a legally responsible adult may release a minor (under 16 y.o.). The parent or legal guardian must sign the MPR form for the minor. If the authorization from the parent or guardian is given over the phone, this should be documented in the “general comments” section and the person whom the minor is released should sign the form. (Note: the parent or guardian should be aware and approve of the release arrangements.) Two health-care providers at the scene should witness verbal releases.
5. If a parent or guardian cannot be contacted, the child must remain in custody of EMS personnel and be transported to the hospital.
6. If the minor is continuing to strongly refuse transport, re-contact the Medical Control physician and follow orders received.

Effective Date:	10/07/2001				
Review Date(s):	04/20/2016				
Revision Date(S):	06/23/2016				