

	<p style="text-align: center;">SOUTHERN FOX VALLEY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM POLICY & PROCEDURES</p>				
<p>TITLE: DELINEATION OF BLS VS. ALS PATIENTS</p>					
<p>SECTION: GENERAL POLICIES</p>			<p>POLICY NUMBER: D-38.0</p>		
<p>APPROVED BY: DR. ARTHUR PROUST EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR</p>					
<p>EFFECTIVE DATE: 08/01/2016</p>			<p>PAGE NUMBER: 1 OF 2</p>		

PURPOSE:

To identify Basic Life Support (BLS) patients verse Advanced Life Support (ALS) patients.

POLICY:

This policy is to be utilized by all Southern Fox Valley EMS System Providers. This policy will be used to identify BLS patients versus ALS patients for the purpose of documentation and transport. All Southern Fox Valley EMS System Basic expanded scope procedures are identified as BLS patients on an ALS ambulance.

If this policy is used on an ALS ambulance, then the paramedic must be in the patient compartment when caring for and transporting any patient despite the level the patient is being treated.

These patients may be transported to a free-standing emergency center.

A. PATIENT INCLUSION / EXCLUSION:

The patients that are treated with only basic treatments or identified basic expanded scope procedures can be considered BLS patients.

If a patient needs advanced procedures, they are not identified as BLS patients. (ie: needing cardiac monitoring, IV fluids or advanced medications.)

B. TIERED RESPONSE

If a department chooses, they can instate a tiered response.

Process

- i. Send department policy to EMS System Coordinator. This policy should outline how your department is going to use the tiered response. It should outline the education and communication with dispatch center. How QI will be conducted per system policy. And how the public will be notified of this change in service.
- ii. Notify system hospitals and neighboring departments.

The following types of calls can be dispatched as BLS patients

- iii. The tiered response is for patients over the age of 12. Any patient under the age of 12 an

Effective Date:	08/01/2016				
Review Date(s):					
Revision Date(S):	08/01/2016				

ALS ambulance should be dispatched.

- iv. If after an ALS assessment has been completed and the patient meets BLS criteria, the paramedic can contact a system hospital for permission to allow a BLS ambulance to do the transport.

The Call Types

- v. Lift assists
- vi. A diabetic that is alert and able to stick out their tongue
- vii. Asthma patient that has used their inhaler less than three (3) times
- viii. Mild allergic reactions without difficulty in breathing
- ix. Behavioral health patients that are not aggressive and no injury
- x. Wellbeing check/check the subject
- xi. Motor vehicle collisions with no reported injuries or minor injuries
- xii. Minor burns
- xiii. Minor sprains/strains/fractures non-open
- xiv. Non-traumatic chest pain if under 25 years of age