

Detroit East Medical Control Authority
System Protocols
UTILIZATION OF ECHO UNITS

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Echo units may be dispatched for all priority 1 and 2 calls in the area utilizing this form of EMS response. After assessing the scene and performing an IPS, the paramedic will intervene with the appropriate skills according to current standing DEMCA protocols.

These include but are not limited to the following:

1. IV access
2. Oral endotracheal intubations
3. Drug administration
4. Manual Defibrillation, etc.

If drug administration has occurred in the process of patient stabilization by the ECHO paramedic, this paramedic will then accompany the patient to the hospital by temporarily replacing the paramedic who responded with the medic unit. The responding paramedic (from the medic unit) will also temporarily become the ECHO paramedic by replacing this individual. This personnel exchange will then allow the ECHO unit to return to service immediately. Additionally, once the drug box is opened by the ECHO paramedic the responding MEDIC unit will then furnish their un-opened drug box to the ECHO unit to be utilized by the ECHO unit.

If mutual aid has been activated and the responding EMS Unit is from another agency, the patient is to be transferred to the responding paramedic for transport and continuation of care. Additionally, if the patient requires further stabilization or medical management, the responding EMS unit's drug box is to be utilized.

All EMS personnel on the scene shall assist with patient and equipment until the patient is stabilized and ready for transport.

If only an IV is started, it is not necessary for the ECHO paramedic to accompany the patient to the hospital.

If a personnel change has occurred temporarily then it becomes the field supervisor responsibility to arrange for the personnel exchange in the field to their original assigned units.

Upon arrival on the scene of a call and finding no need for additional assistance the unit shall immediately cancel the need for a second response.

Upon arriving on the scene and finding that a life-threatening situation does not exist on the scene, unit shall advise the other responding unit to "go easy". Upon receiving an advisory to go easy, a responding unit shall immediately change their HOT response to COLD (no lights and sirens) and obey all traffic laws.

In the event that the responding Medic Unit requires additional assistance in the form of the ECHO paramedic (i.e. Multiple Critically Injured Patients) providing direct patient care the ECHO unit will accompany the responding Medic Unit to the hospital. If the extra medic must accompany the patient to hospital the driver of the ECHO unit shall proceed at normal speeds and obey all traffic laws while en-route to the hospital.