Protocol Deviation

I. It is acknowledged that there are situations in which deviation from the protocols, policies and procedures may be needed in the interest of patient care.

   A. In those situations, EMS personnel should request permission for deviation from on-line medical direction whenever possible.

   B. Unavailability of on-line medical direction and the immediacy of patient care needs may, in very rare instances, prohibit such requests, but those situations should occur rarely.

II. All instances of protocol deviation must be documented in the EMS patient care record, noting the deviation which occurred and the reason for that deviation.

III. All deviations performed without online medical control approval must be reported to the MCA with 24 hours.

IV. All reported deviations will be reviewed within the MCA Professional Standard Review Organization.