Responsibilities of the Participants in the Medical Control Authority System

Purpose:

This protocol defines the responsibilities of each administrative segment of the Medical Control Authority system. These segments include the Medical Control Authority itself; the hospitals and freestanding emergency departments (FSED) providing on-line medical direction; and the EMS agencies providing direct EMS services to the public.

I. Responsibilities of the Medical Control Authority
   A. The Medical Control Authority is responsible for providing medical oversight for EMS. Hospitals are responsible for administering the Medical Control Authority.
   B. The Medical Control Authority will issue protocols, with Department approval, as defined by Part 209 of P.A. 368 of 1978, as amended, that reflect current medical practice and address issues as necessary to assure quality pre-hospital patient care.
   C. In cooperation with the EMS agencies, the Medical Control Authority will coordinate training to implement protocols not included in initial EMS education.
   D. Ensure that all significantly affected parties in the MCA will have sixty-days' notice for protocol changes (aside from emergency protocols).
   E. The Medical Control Authority will establish a Professional Standards Review Organization (PSRO).
      a. PSRO will implement a system wide Continuous Quality Improvement program.
      b. PSRO will provide an impartial, fair and medically appropriate peer review process.
   F. The Medical Control Authority will forward to the Department within (1) business day any ODA issued to a licensee that restricts their ability to practice (i.e., suspension or revocation of MCA privileges)

II. Responsibilities of Participating Hospitals and Free Standing Emergency Departments (FSED) Providing On-Line Medical Direction
   A. A hospital or FSED within the Medical Control Authority system providing on-line medical direction to EMS providers will assure that any physician or physician designee authorized to providing such direction:
      a. Has access to the current MCA approved protocols
      b. Provides medical direction consistent with MCA approved protocols.
   B. Each hospital or FSED providing on-line medical direction will encourage the participation of a representative of its Emergency Department physician staff with the Medical Control Authority.
   C. Hospitals or FSEDs will promptly inform their Emergency Department physicians and staff of Medical Control Authority policy and protocol changes.

III. Responsibilities of EMS Agencies

A. Agencies will operate under the Medical Control Authority and comply with Department approved protocols.
B. Assure only persons currently authorized to do so by the Medical Control Authority will provide pre-hospital patient care.
C. Each EMS agency will assure that their personnel have current training and certifications as required by **Medical Control Privileges Protocol**.
D. Each EMS agency will immediately notify the Medical Control Authority and the Department if the EMS agency is unable to provide staffing at the level required by its State license.
E. Licensed EMS vehicles will be equipped with all Medical Control Authority required equipment, if applicable, in addition to that equipment required by the State of Michigan.
F. EMS agencies will promptly inform their EMS personnel of Medical Control Authority policy and protocol changes.
G. EMS agencies will provide an annual listing of EMS personnel. This listing shall note the license and Medical Control Authority authorization status of each individual.
H. If an employee of an EMS agency is found to be in violation of a Medical Control Authority protocol, the EMS agency will cooperate with the Medical Control Authority in addressing the violation and taking corrective measures.
I. Assure training and competency of personnel in the case of new or expanding department approved protocols.

IV. Accountability

A. The Department designates the Medical Control Authority for a specific geographic area. As such, the Medical Control Authority is accountable to the Department in the performance of its duties.
B. The hospitals and possibly the FSEDs within the Medical Control Authority system collectively administer this Medical Control Authority. Each individual hospital and FSED that receives emergency patients by ambulance is accountable to the Medical Control Authority to meet the responsibilities listed above. Failure to meet those responsibilities may result in a termination of the ability of a hospital or FSED to provide on-line medical direction or receive emergency patients (by ambulance).
C. EMS agencies within the Medical Control Authority system are accountable to the Medical Control Authority, as detailed and defined in protocol. Failure to comply with approved protocols may result in sanctions against that EMS agency.