

**DEMCA
SYSTEM PROTOCOL**

TRANSFER OF PATIENT CARE BETWEEN EMS PROVIDERS AND RECEIVING FACILITIES

Initial Date: December 1, 2020
Revised Date:

Section 8.36

Purpose:

The purpose of this protocol to create a standardized approach to optimize communication between emergency medical services and emergency department providers when providing for critically ill patients and to decrease medical errors related to communication breakdown between prehospital personnel and ED providers

Procedure:

- Patient is brought into the designated room
- **Timeout** will be called by emergency senior staff, resident, nursing or prehospital staff
 - “Attention please: EMS timeout”.
- Participants of the timeout are expected to stop and listen to EMS handoff report
 - Life saving interventions such as CPR, bag mask ventilation, etc, continue
- EMS delivers patient report utilizing **MIST** mnemonic
 - EMS report is limited to 30-45 seconds

M	Age/Sex (include patient’s name), Mechanism of Injury; or Medical Complaint/History
I	Injuries (time of injury, list head to toe); Inspections (time of onset, brief medical exam/findings)
S	Vital Signs (first set and significant changes, include glucose)
T	Treatment (obtain transfer of care signature)

- During the verbal report, all members of the health care team, including EMS providers, nurses, and physicians, must communicate with mutual respect for each other and respect the communication from EMS as an important part of the patient’s history.
- When a patient requires emergent attention to airway, breathing, or circulation or at the discretion of the resuscitation team leader, the transfer of patient care may occur prior to a formal handoff report.
- Once an initial patient assessment is completed and the patient is considered stable by the hospital team leader, then a formal “**EMS Timeout**” handoff report can occur.
- When EMS completes the handoff report, the EMS member giving the handoff report will ask the hospital staff “**Are there any questions?**”
 - If yes, those questions will be answered.
 - If no, the EMS member giving the handoff report will state “**EMS Timeout Report is complete, please transfer {patient name}**”.
- EMS transfer of care report should be treated as part of the healthcare record and must be professional, accurate, and consistent with information included in the final complete electronic or written EMS patient care report.