


Title: Physician on Scene	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> SOP
Category: Primary & Advanced Care Paramedic Non-Clinical Dept/Prog/Service: Base Hospital Program	Distribution: NW Region Ambulance Operators & Paramedics		
Approved: Program Medical Director & Program Manager	Approval Date: March 2000		
Signature: 	Reviewed/Revised Date: May 2017		

1. POLICY STATEMENT

This policy will clarify the action(s) to be taken by a paramedic in the event that a physician is present *on scene* and offers to provide medical assistance in the field.

The policy also includes an *information card* which could be handed over to the physician who presents on scene. The information card will assist the paramedic in communicating with the physician while attending to the patient. Use of the information card is at the discretion of the paramedic.

2. DEFINITIONS

- i. Ambulance Call Report (ACR): is either a written or electronic and contains all the required documentation and information as per the Ontario Ambulance Documentation Standards
- ii. Controlled Act: as set out in subsection 27 (2) of the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991
- iii. Paramedic: as defined in subsection 1(1) of the Ambulation Act Ontario Regulation 257/00
- iv. Primary Care Paramedic (PCP): as defined in subsection 8 (1) of the Ambulation Act Ontario Regulation 257/00
- v. Advanced Care Paramedics (ACP): defined in subsection 8 (2) of the Ambulation Act Ontario Regulation 257/00

3. PROCEDURE

- A. Paramedics should hand over a copy of the *information card* to any physician who offers assistance on scene. This will provide quick information to the physician while the paramedics may be too involved in providing patient care to respond immediately.
- B. In the event that a on scene physician offers to assist with the medical emergency the paramedics must ensure the following identification items have been predetermined and recorded for follow up purposes:
 - i. Full name of the physician
 - ii. Specialty (for example, dentist, family practice, emergency)
 - iii. Where is the physician's license to practice held (for example, province or state)
- C. Paramedics must only provide and assist the physician with patient care that is in accordance with their current level of certification or scope of practice, including current patient care standards, medical directives, and any patient care related policies.

- D. In all cases where patient care is provided by the on scene physician and this care is beyond the paramedic's scope of practice the paramedic must ensure the physician accompanies the patient to the hospital in the ambulance and continues care and/or monitors the patient under his care.
- E. In all cases where patient care is provided by the on scene physician, the physician must be asked to sign for all procedures and care provided by them. They must also clearly print their full name, specialty, and location of their license to practice (as per Item 2 above) for identification purposes.
 - i. Procedures Section of ACR: The physician sign for all procedures they have performed
 - ii. Identification elements on the ACR: As per Item 2 above
- F. In the event that the information card is *not readily available* or is *not utilized* the paramedic is responsible to ensure the physician understands the following:

The physician may advise and assist with patient care according to the current medical directives upon approval from the paramedic. In this case:

- iii. Paramedics may choose to contact the Base Hospital Physician for direction or advice; or
- iv. Paramedics may ask the physician to consult with the Base Hospital (patch) Physician (BHP) on patient care management.

If the physician offers medical advice or instruction that is beyond your scope of practice or medical directives and/or the physician determines care is required beyond your scope of practice or medical directives, the paramedic should consider the following options:

- v. Paramedics may choose to contact the Base Hospital Physician for direction or advice; or
- vi. Paramedics may ask the on scene physician to consult with the Base Hospital (patch) Physician (BHP) on patient care management; or
- vii. Paramedics will advise the physician that they will assist with care to their scope of practice but the responsibility for the patient will be transferred to the physician and the physician must accompany the patient to the hospital.