To: All Transport Agencies

From: Travis Wilson EMS System Manager

Date: 07/28/2021

Subject: Transporting Deceased Patients

Agencies,

The system wanted to make a clarification regarding the transportation of deceased patients during a 911 transport. The following clarifications are noted as following:

1. Agencies transporting a patient to a hospital on a 911 call and the patient goes into cardiac arrest and has a valid DNR, EMS providers shall call medical control (or an associate hospital if they have already made an inbound notification to the associate hospital) for cease efforts orders.
2. Providers shall contact the coroner per our policy. If the destination hospital is within the same county that the ambulance is physically located at, they should continue transport to their destination facility and notify the coroner to meet in ambulance bay of the receiving facility.
3. EMS providers shall remain in the ambulance with the patient until the coroner arrives.
4. At no time shall providers bring a person declared deceased by medical control into the facility, unless directed by medical control or the coroner. It may be appropriate to notify the receiving facility of EMS plans to meet the coroner in ambulance bay.
5. Providers at no time shall transport bodies across county lines. If a patient is being transported to a facility outside of the county, the must pull over into a safe location within the county that the ambulance is physically at.
6. Agencies may be directed to an alternative location at the request of the coroner for transfer of the deceased, follow their direction if resources, location, and time allow.

Patients who cardiac arrest during transport and do not have a DNR, should continue onto their destination, unless a unique or unusual reason arises. Medical control must be contacted on all cease effort orders regardless of cause of death.