

Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

A-10 ABANDONMENT / TRANSFER OF CARE

ALS/ILS/BLS

Responsibility of Care:

- Once a patient has received Advanced Life Support by a Paramedic or Intermediate Life Support by an EMT-Intermediate, he/she is under the direct care of the Medical Control physician.
 - Once the orders have been given to load and transport, Medical Control or transporting ambulance crew will notify the receiving hospital and relay the following information:
 - Chief complaint
 - History
 - Patient condition
 - Treatment and response
 - ETA to receiving facility

Treatment/Transport – Transfer of Care:

- ALS personnel must not leave a patient if there exists a need for continuing medical care that must be provided by persons with Paramedic level skills.
- ILS personnel must not leave a patient if there exists a need for continuing medical care that must be provided by persons with Intermediate level skills.
- ALS/ILS personnel cannot initiate care/treatment then turn patient care over to a lower level of care **unless** the patient requests transport to a hospital outside the provider service area **and** the agency is a tiered service as outlined in the Transport Destination / Bypass Policy.

Mutual Aid Response/Multiple Units at Scene:

- One EMS crew member shall assume charge and control of the scene. This is usually by the first responding unit.
 - If you are an additional arriving unit, follow the Incident Command System.
- Before care of the patient is turned over to another unit/EMS crew, the level of care must be at the same level or higher.
 - On large scale incidents, this will be validated through the transport branch of ICS.
- EMS providers who initiate care and treatment at the scene and leave when assistance is needed jeopardize patient care and may be held liable for abandonment of care.