

# Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

## L-5 FIRST RESPONDER MEDICAL/LLEGAL

1. Consent:
  - 1.1. It is essential that the First Responder receive consent to treat the patient.
  - 1.2. Oral consent is considered valid.
  - 1.3. In a true emergency in which there is risk of death or disability, the consent is considered implied.
2. Refusal of Care:
  - 2.1. A competent adult has the right to refuse emergency care and/or transport.
  - 2.2. If a patient of guardian refuses to consent, the FR may not render emergency care or forcibly transport the patient.
3. Minor or Mentally Ill Patient:
  - 3.1. A parent or guardian may give consent of a minor child.
  - 3.2. A parent, guardian or health care power of attorney may give consent on the patient's behalf.
4. Abandonment of Care:
  - 4.1. Once the First Responder has voluntarily started care, he should not leave the scene or stop care until relieved by the EMT.