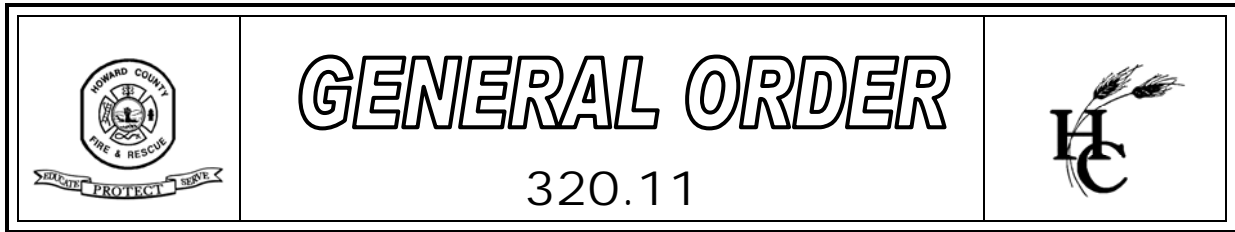


DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES



Originating From	Issue Date	Revision Date	Attachments
Emergency Medical Services	4/09/1984	1/5/2009	N/A

SUBJECT: Hospital Direct Admission

APPLICABILITY: All Personnel

POLICY:

The transfer of direct admission patients in a medical facility shall be handled in the most expedient manner practical with regards to patient care and responsibility. The goal is to minimize out of service time of ambulances during the transfer of direct admit patients in the hospital setting.



1 GENERAL

- 1.1 The Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services (DFRS) are responsible for providing emergency pre-hospital care to the community. It is mandatory that transport units be available as much as possible. The transfer of patients in a medical facility will normally occur in the Emergency Department. This will result in time saving for the transport crews.
- 1.2 Physicians associated with a hospital, should expect that the DFRS will take their emergency patients to the emergency department. The DFRS recognizes that there are circumstances that may require a direct admission from time to time. These would include pre-scheduled non-emergency transports and a limited number of emergency situations.

2 DIRECT ADMISSION

- 2.1 All direct admit patients must have a bed assigned which is currently available to the patient.
- 2.2 A member of the hospital or nursing staff shall meet the ambulance crew at the entrance to the Emergency Department and escort them to the patient's room.
- 2.3 The ambulance/Medic Unit crew is responsible for notification of the Emergency Department in advance that they are en-route with a direct admit patient, and give an estimated time of arrival (ETA). Exceptions may exist when travel time is less than five minutes.

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

	<h2>GENERAL ORDER</h2> <p>320.11</p>	
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- 2.4 If the conditions in 2.1 and 2.2 are not met, the patient(s) will be taken to the Emergency Department.

Approved:



Joseph A. Herr
Fire Chief