

 		<b>CLACKAMAS &amp; WASHINGTON COUNTY</b> <b>EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES</b>		
		<b>EMS Clinical Notification</b>		
EFFECTIVE DATE: Dec. 21, 2022	NUMBER: 122122-OPS Addendum	TYPE: Clinical Guideline	REPLACES: None - Addendum	PAGE: 1 OF 2
ENTER NAME/TITLE HERE (signature on line below):  <b>DR. RITU SAHNI, MD, MPH, FAEMS</b>		TITLE:  <b>Management of code 3 returns during the “No-divert” period by ground EMS crews</b>		

Hello!

This EMS Clinical Notification is an addendum to the previously published notification regarding the two-week period of no hospital-initiated diversion.

During the suspension of hospital-initiated diversion, we will attempt to minimize the likelihood that an individual hospital receives 2 critically ill patients via EMS at roughly the same time. The combination of ED boarding and increased EMS volume has led to near continuous diversion and active zone management. As a result, EMS Medical Direction has suspended diversion from December 21, 2022 to January 4, 2023. Since ambulance traffic may be persistent, we are attempting to reduce the likelihood of hospitals receiving two code 3 patients within close time proximity.

For 9-1-1 EMS calls in which the field crew determines that a Code 3 return is necessary:

- Prior to departure, the crew will notify the zone manager (ZM) for the zone in which the probable receiving hospital is located
  - o Washington County (West Zone) Hospitals contact Metro West Dispatch:
    - Kaiser Westside Hospital
    - Legacy Meridian Park
    - Hillsboro Medical Center
    - Providence St. Vincent Hospital
  - o Clackamas County (South Zone) Hospitals, contact Medical Resource Hospital (MRH):
    - Kaiser Sunnyside Hospital
    - Providence Milwaukie
    - Providence Willamette Falls
- The crew will notify the zone manager that they will be transporting code 3 and that they would like to begin transport to the closest hospital
- The ZM will note the unit, time, and preferred hospital

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- If the preferred receiving hospital has received a code 3 EMS patient in the last 30 minutes:
    - o ZM will state, “Be aware that Hospital X has received a critical patient in the last 30 minutes”
    - o Crew will determine the best course based on clinical need. If the next closest hospital is a significant distance away, then the crew may proceed to originally intended destination
    - o Crew will notify ZM of destination decision
    - o Crew will notify first responder crew and other appropriate on-scene personnel (family, facility staff, etc.) of destination
  - If the preferred hospital has not received an unstable patient in the last 30 minutes, the ZM will acknowledge receipt of information and crew will proceed to intended destination

As always, we appreciate your support and hard work during this particularly stressful time.



Ritu Sahni, MD, MPH, FAEMS  
EMS Medical Director