FACILITY BYPASS POLICY

Purpose:

At assure the prompt and appropriate routing of patients to the next closest appropriate hospital facility when the resources of the nearest facility are compromised in such a manner that the care needed by the patient can not be provided by the nearer facility.

Provision:

The Emergency Department (ED) status choices are "Open", "Closed", and "Trauma Alert".

ED personnel are still required to monitor and update their ED status at least once each day, between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 am.

Failure to update the system within this window will result in an automatic status update to Open_Overdue status which will be displayed in green, just like the normal Open status.

The system will also "automatically update" to Open_Overdue when your current status (Closed or Trauma Alert) is expired and overdue for update or if you do not update daily during the 2-hour window outlined above.

The Trauma Alert status must be updated every hour. If the condition still persists, simply update the status to Trauma Alert again. Only trauma designated hospitals Level I and Level II are allowed to go on Trauma Alert.

If the ED status is updated to Closed the closure is normally due to loss of power, flood, or other natural disasters. The closed condition should be updated every 2 hours.

We are aware that emergency room staffs are often very busy performing their Emergency Department (ED) functions. We also know that a specific EMSysten PC is not always readily available to personnel authorized to update the emergency room status.

If the ED staff does not have the capability to update, they can contact the NCTTRAC or any of the regional EMSysten regional coordinators (medical controls) to update their status for them.

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