

**PEORIA AREA EMS SYSTEM  
PREHOSPITAL CARE MANUAL**

**Off-Line Medical Control, Standing  
Medical Orders & Protocols Policy**

The Prehospital Care Manual, developed by the EMS Medical Director reflects nationally recommended treatment modalities for providing patient care in the prehospital setting. This Prehospital Care Manual, containing Standing Medical Orders, Protocols, Policies & Procedures, is intended to establish the standard of care which is expected of the Peoria Area EMS System provider.

1. Standing Medical Orders, Protocols, Policies & Procedures contained in this Prehospital Care Manual are the written, established standard of care to be followed by all members of the Peoria Area EMS System for treatment of the acutely ill or injured patient.
2. The EMS provider will initiate patient care under these guidelines and contact Base Station Medical Control in a timely manner for those treatments which require on-line physician's order. Diligent effort must be made to contact Medical Control in a timely manner via cellular telemetry, landline phone or VHF MERCI radio. Delay or failure to contact Medical Control for required on-line orders is a quality assurance indicator.
3. These Standing Medical Orders will be utilized as Off-Line Medical Control under the following circumstances:
  - In the event communication cannot be established or is disrupted between the Prehospital provider and Medical Control (or the receiving hospital).
  - In the event that establishing communications would cause an inadvisable delay in care that would increase life threat to the patient.
  - In the event the Medical Control physician is not immediately available for communication.
  - In the event of a disaster situation, where an immediate action to preserve and save lives supersedes the need to communicate with hospital-based personnel, or where such communication is not required by the disaster protocol.
4. Inability to contact Medical Control should not delay patient transport or the provision of life-saving therapies. Patient destination and transport decisions are set forth in these Standing Medical Orders / Protocols.