

**PEORIA AREA EMS SYSTEM
PREHOSPITAL CARE MANUAL**

**Radio Communications
Protocol**

Radio communications is a vital component of prehospital care. Information reported should be concise and provide an accurate description of the patient's condition as well as treatment rendered. Therefore, **a complete patient assessment and set of vital signs should be completed prior to contacting Medical Control or the receiving hospital.**

Regardless of the destination, **early** and **timely** notification of Medical Control or the receiving hospital is essential for prompt care to be delivered by all involved.

Components of the Patient Report

- ◆ Unit identification
- ◆ Destination & ETA
- ◆ Age/sex
- ◆ Chief complaint
- ◆ Assessment (General appearance, degree of distress & level of consciousness)
- ◆ Vital signs:
 1. Blood pressure (**auscultated** {or palpated if unable to auscultate})
 2. Pulse (rate, quality, regularity)
 3. Respirations (rate, pattern, depth)
 4. Pulse oximetry, if indicated
 5. Pupils (size & reactivity)
 6. Skin (color, temperature, moisture)
- ◆ Pertinent physical examination findings
- ◆ SAMPLE History
- ◆ Treatment rendered and patient response to treatment

NOTE: Items listed in **red** should be transmitted without delay.

If Medical Control contact is necessary to obtain physician orders (where indicated by protocol), diligent attempts must be made to establish base station contact via:

1. Cellular telemetry (309)655-6770
2. Telephone landline direct to MEDCOM (309)655-6770
3. MERCI radio

If unable to establish contact, then initiate protocol. If Medical Control contact is not necessary, contact the receiving hospital via MERCI.