



**Department of Emergency Services
Fire-EMS Division
Standard Operating Procedures**

EMS Operations

Subject: Emergency Transfer of Critically Ill Cardiac or
Severely Injured Patients From Receiving Facilities
Revised: 4-1-03
Section: 301.00

301.01 Purpose

To provide guidelines for providing division resources to assist with the emergent transfer of critically ill or injured from Atlantic General Hospital to Peninsula Regional Medical Center. This policy only applies to patients delivered to Atlantic General Hospital by Ocean City Fire-EMS Division transport units.

301.02 Procedure

1. Ocean City Fire-EMS personnel may provide emergent transfer of critical ill or injured patients from Atlantic General Hospital to Peninsula Regional Medical Center.
2. When a request for emergent transfer is received by the emergency room physician, the Fire-EMS crew shall notify the shift lieutenant or designee immediately.
3. Fire-EMS personnel may remain at the hospital for up to (30) thirty minutes to allow for stabilization of the patient and preparation for transport.
4. If, upon reaching the (30) thirty-minute time limit, transport has not been initiated, the shift lieutenant or designee shall be notified. In addition, the physician in-charge of the patient shall be notified that the waiting Fire-EMS crew must return to service if transport cannot be initiated promptly. If the physician advises that transport cannot be initiated promptly, the Fire-EMS personnel shall notify the emergency room physician that the unit must return to service and the Fire-EMS unit will be unavailable for transport. Other arrangements for transport will need to be made by the hospital. The Fire-EMS unit shall return to service.
5. If the Fire-EMS crew returns to service because the 30-minute time limit is exceeded, the Fire-EMS personnel shall complete an incident report explaining the circumstances of the return to service.
6. If the conditions are such in Ocean City that an EMS crew can't be

spared for a transport, the Shift Lieutenant or designee can at his or her discretion declare a "Blue Alert" as described in the Maryland Region IV Alert Status System.