



Carroll County Department of Fire & EMS

Standard Operating Procedure: 3.45	Effective Date: July 10, 2024
Subject: Ambulance Passenger Guidelines	Section: Emergency Medical Services
Authorized: Eric Zaney, Assistant Chief of EMS	Revision Date: N/A

I. PURPOSE

This policy is designed offer comprehensive guidance for EMS clinicians regarding the transportation of individuals who are not patients to the hospital. It outlines clear protocols and procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of both the individuals being transported and the EMS personnel involved. By adhering to this policy, EMS clinicians can effectively navigate situations where non-patient transportation is necessary.

II. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to Carroll County Department of Fire and EMS (CCDFEMS) career and volunteer personnel.

III. DEFINITIONS

Non-Patient: Any individual that is not under the direct care of an EMS clinician examples include family members, parents, and caregivers.

Patient: Person under direct care of an EMS clinician.

Minor: Any person who is under the age of 18 years old.

Alternate transport method: Family, neighbors, law enforcement, social services, or public transportation.

IV. PROCEDURES

CCDFEMS recommends that EMS crews attempt to find or facilitate alternate means of transportation for non-patients if possible. Crews should exhaust all alternate transport options prior to transporting a non-patient. It is understood that there are special

circumstances when the transport of non-patients is necessary. These include, but are not limited to, the transportation of minors, special needs patients, and any other circumstance the crew member deems appropriate. The emergency provider in charge shall make the final decision on whether or not transportation of non-patients is appropriate and safe.

If the decision is made to transport a non-patient, safety procedures must be followed. CCDFEMS requires all occupants to be properly seat belted. It is also recommended that non-patients be transported in the front passenger seat of the ambulance. Once at the destination, the emergency vehicle operator of the ambulance shall instruct the passenger to remain inside the vehicle until the emergency vehicle operator is able to assist them out of the vehicle.

V. RECISION

This Standard Operating Procedure rescinds all directives regarding ambulance passenger transportation or similar content previously issued for personnel of the Carroll County Department of Fire & EMS.