

## Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

<b>Title: Helicopter Utilization Policy</b>	<b>Effective Date: April 1993</b> <b>Page: 1 of 1</b>
<b>Policy #1993-2</b>	<b>Revised: June 2009</b>

<b>Policy:</b>	It is the policy of the REMAC that on scene use of helicopters by EMS agencies should follow these guidelines.
<b>Procedure:</b>	<p><b>1. Consider EMS Helicopter Transport:</b></p> <p>a. for patients who meet Trauma Triage guidelines, and when helicopter transport will significantly reduce the arrival time at a specialty center, especially for patients with a life or limb threatening condition.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>or</b></p> <p>b. if specialized services offered by the aeromedical crew would benefit the patient prior to arrival at the hospital, for example if ALS services are needed but not available by ground.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>or</b></p> <p>c. critically ill medical patients requiring care at a specialized center to include, but not limited to: acute stroke or ST-Elevation myocardial infarction.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>or</b></p> <p>d. in special circumstances including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mass Casualty Incidents</li> <li>- Equipment and/or personnel considerations</li> <li>- Safer/more effective transport</li> <li>- Facilitate rescue/extrication</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>and</b></p> <p>e. <i>only if the pt has viable signs of life (a measurable blood pressure or pulse)</i></p> <p><b>2. Helicopter Services should be:</b></p> <p>a. alerted to a “stand by” status by any Dispatcher, EMS, Fire or Police authority as soon as a potential need is identified.</p> <p>b. requested by on-scene prehospital care provider with the highest level of training, or in the absence of EMS personnel, the decision will be made by the scene incident commander.</p> <p><b>3. Patient transport should not be delayed waiting for a helicopter unless directed by MC.</b></p> <p>4. When multiple patients require transport from a scene, ground EMS shall triage those patients to insure the sickest patient or the patient that could benefit the most from the aeromedical service is assigned to the aeromedical service.</p>
<b>Reference:</b>	NY State Bureau of EMS Policy Statement 05-05