

Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

Title:	Alternate Destinations	Policy # 2022-1
Effective Date:	06/15/2022	
Reviewed:		
Updated:		
Policy	<p>The WREMAC encourages EMS agencies, under the oversight of their medical directors, to find innovative approaches to patient disposition. Dispositions other than transport to the hospital may increase system efficiency, reduce hospital overcrowding, offer economic efficiencies, and provide patients with the most appropriate care. These approaches potentially include treatment in place (with or without telemedicine) and/or alternate destinations.</p> <p>The goal of this policy to set guidelines for the approval an ongoing evaluation include treatment in place (with or without telemedicine) and/or alternate destination program.</p>	
Procedure	<p>Approval by the WREMAC</p> <p>The WREMAC may approve treatment in place (with or without telemedicine) and/or alternate destination program if the plan meet the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EMS providers may not perform treatment procedures or administer medications that are outside of their scope of practice as approved in the existing protocols. 2. The Treating Physician/APP must have completed a WREMAC base station course, unless: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Treating Physician/APP has a preexisting relationship with the patient. b. Treating Physician/APP is personally evaluating and caring for the patient on scene c. Treating Physician/APP is personally evaluating and caring for the patient via video based telemedicine. 3. EMS providers may not perform treatment procedures or administer medications that require online medical direction unless directed to do so by a Treating Physician/APP who has completed the required base station training. 4. Patients retain the right to be transported to the hospital upon their request. 5. The temporary approval may last up to 120 days from the day. <p>Approval by the SEMAC</p> <p>A treatment in place (with or without telemedicine) and/or alternate destination program that includes treatment procedures or administration of medications that are outside of the provider’s scope of practice as approved in the existing protocols requires approval by the SEMAC prior to implementation.</p>	

Initial Requirements

Any agency applying for temporary approval of a new treatment in place (with or without telemedicine) and/or alternate destination must describe the following components of their proposal:

1. Rationale for the program
2. Population being served (include patient characteristics and expected volume)
3. Inclusion and exclusion criteria
4. Alternate Destination (including hours of operations, treatment capabilities, plan for patients who require a higher level of care, patient financial consideration, contact number for EMS use, administrative contact)
5. Plan to provide for patient safety/minimize under triage
6. Provider Education Plan
7. Documentation Plan
8. Ongoing Quality Assurance Plan
9. Letter of Support from the agency EMS medical director
10. Letter of Support from the alternate destination medical director (if applicable)
11. Letter of Support of from the Treating Physician/APP group medical director (if applicable)

Temporary Approval

Temporary approval allows for innovation and modification of a program after implementation prior to approval by the WREMAC. The WREMAC Chair may grant temporary approval upon review of an Agencies Initial Proposal provided that:

1. The policy meet the criteria set forth in this policy.
2. The temporary approval will expire at the next scheduled WREMAC Meeting that occurs at least 90 days following the issuance of the temporary approval.
3. The program may be modified at any time during the period of temporary approval provided with the written approval of the WREMAC Chair.
4. The WREMAC Chair may revoke temporary approval
5. The WREMAC Chair may include additional restrictions or reporting guidelines as part of the temporary approval.

Approval

Following the temporary approval or if temporary approval is not granted, the program will be reviewed by the WREMAC for approval.

Limitation of Approvals

All approvals will specify the agencies and alternate destination to which they apply, and may not be expanded beyond those agencies and alternate destinations without Temporary Approval/Approval.

ePCR

Agencies must utilize ePCRs and submit them to New York State via the electronic bridge. Continuous Quality Improvement As a condition of approval, agencies must submit continuous quality improvement report to the WREMAC, such that:

1. CQI reports will be submitted at least semiannually.
2. Failure to submit reports in a timely manner may result in withdrawal of approval for the program.