



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



CLINICAL DIRECTIVE 04/2012 (amended)
FROM: Medical Director
TO: Emergency Medical Controllers, Paramedics, Advanced Paramedics, Emergency Medical Technicians
SUBJECT: Advanced Paramedic dispatch/request EMCs: The Dispatch Cross Reference Table advises when an Advanced Paramedic should be allocated to calls. When AP dispatch is advised, the presence of a Doctor / General Practitioner on the call does not remove the need to dispatch an AP. Ps, APs, EMTs: the need for Advanced Paramedic assistance on a call is determined by the relevant Clinical Practice Guideline. If a CPG and the patient's condition indicates that an AP should be requested, staff must do so (unless AP already en route). The presence of a Doctor / General Practitioner at a scene / or on board the ambulance does not remove the requirement to request an Advanced Paramedic. Notes: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The AP may be stood down where the estimated rendezvous time would greatly exceed the ambulance ETA for the ED.2. The AP may be diverted by Ambulance Control to a higher priority call (as determined by the DCR table) whilst en route to a call, where reasonable to do so.3. The crew should not remain on scene awaiting AP arrival, but should attempt rendezvous en route to the ED.4. Journey times to the ED of < 10 minutes should not normally require an AP rendezvous.
RATIONALE: Advanced Paramedics and General Practitioners have different (but complementary) skill sets. The presence of a General Practitioner on a call is to be welcomed and will enhance patient care. An Advanced Paramedic on the call brings a different set of skills and attributes, which also benefit patient care, however both skill sets are not interchangeable.
EFFECTIVE FROM: May 18th 2012 EFFECTIVE TO: Indefinitely
QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON THIS DIRECTIVE: Control Centre Manager, Education and Competency Assurance Officer

Clinical Directives are formulated by the National Ambulance Service Medical Directorate, the National Ambulance Service Education and Competency Assurance Team, the Dublin Fire Brigade Medical Director, the Dublin Fire Brigade EMS Support Team and the Irish Coast Guard Chief Crewman (Standards). Clinical Directives apply to all relevant staff in the HSE National Ambulance Service, Dublin Fire Brigade and Irish Coast Guard helicopter winch-crew.

Seirbhís Náisiúnta Otharchairr
Teach Dara, Ascaill an Crann Teile, Páirc na Mílaoise, Nás na Rí, Co. Chill Dara

National Ambulance Service
Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare
Tel: 045 882592 Fax: 1890 252 125