



BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

EMS Information Bulletin - # 077

DATE: December 20, 2010

SUBJECT: Closure of West Penn Hospital's Emergency Department

TO: Licensed Ambulance Services and
Quick Response Services

FROM: Joseph W. Schmider
Bureau of EMS 

This EMS Information Bulletin provides information on the approved process for patients to be transported to West Penn Hospital directly from the scene of the event.

1. Effective December 31st 2010 at 10am, West Penn Hospital's (WPH) Emergency Department will no longer accept patients brought in by ambulances directly from the scene, except for obstetrics and burn patients as long as the EMS Provider follows this PA Department of Health approved process.
2. When an EMS provider is considering a direct transport of a Burn or Labor/Delivery or Gynecological patient from a scene, the EMS provider will be required to contact medical command to get approval for the direct transport.
3. Once approval is given by a command physician the EMS Providers must ensure that notification is made to WPH via radio on 155.340 or 155.400 or by calling (412) 578-1150 or notification can be made to WPH via the agency's Medical Command.
4. When arriving at WPH, the EMS crew will be met by a nurse who will escort the EMS crew and the patient to the proper unit for transfer of care.

The goal of everyone is to ensure that the patient receives the correct level of care throughout the emergency stage of an event and to ensure the patient is delivered to the correct hospital that can and will provide the correct level of care. As we work together through this change, I would ask that any problems be directed to the Regional EMS Council at (412) 242-7322 or to the Bureau of EMS at (717) 787-8740.

Thank you for your dedicated service to the local, regional and Commonwealth EMS system.