

Hospital Divert Standards for Transporting EMTs

- 1) Dispatch or medical direction hospital will make the hospital medical divert status known to the EMT when asked or at the time when the destination of the patient is communicated.
- 2) The EMT should call their dispatch or TCC as early as possible (prior to leaving the scene) if there is any question about hospital availability.
- 3) The EMT should use the enclosed information about patient definition for divert areas. The definitions should be used as a general guide. If the EMT is unsure about whether a patient will need a bed in the area being diverted, on-line medical direction or the receiving hospital should be contacted.
- 4) The Patient Treatment Rights protocol should always be followed. The patient should always be informed of the hospital destination and its current status.
- 5) "Psychiatric" divert only affects those patients who have a civil hold (mental health) placed upon them by a police officer. Patients who exhibit altered mental status will continue to be treated by the appropriate protocol and transferred to the most appropriate hospital or the hospital of the patient's choice. No hospital or EMT should consider psychiatric bed availability as a reason to divert a patient from the closest or chosen hospital unless a police officer has placed a civil hold on the patient. It is a police officer's responsibility to determine hospital destination on civil hold patients.

BREMSS Trauma Communications Center

Other Functions:

- * **Biolog 12-lead ECG Receipt**
- * **Stroke System Communications**
- * **MCI Hospital Coordination**
- * **Hospital Divert Coordination**
- * **CISD Contact / Coordination**
- * **Regional assistance with hospital contact problems**
- * **PAD Clinical Trials Participant**

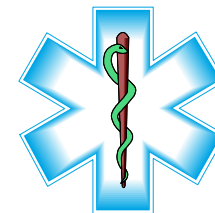


■ ■

B R E M S S

Birmingham Regional EMS System
1114 South 16th Street
Birmingham, AL 35205
Phone: 205-934-2595
Fax: 205-934-2621
Website: www.bremss.org

B R E M S S



Hospital Divert System Information

Trauma Communications Center

Local Emergency:
324-1066

Toll-Free Emergency:
1-800-359-0123

Southern LINC EMS Fleet:
Talkgroup 10

Business (Non-Emergency):
205-975-2400

Real-time EMS

Hospital Medical Divert Standards for Hospitals

The BREMSS Hospital Divert System allows a hospital to notify the EMS System of its need to temporarily have certain types of MEDICAL patients not arrive at its facility. This need can be due to temporary overload of the facility or staff, equipment failure, or emergency situation at the facility. Pre-hospital personnel can then inform patients who may meet the divert criteria of the situation and allow the patient to make an informed decision as to hospital destination.

A hospital may choose to divert in any or all of the medical categories and must renew the medical divert area each eight hours.

If the hospital is the resource or an associate hospital, medical direction functions will be continued.

Resource and associate hospitals will offer on-line medical direction, which recommends patients not be transported to a hospital which is on divert.

Trauma Communications Center will notify BREMSS EMS providers and hospitals of the current divert status of all BREMSS hospitals.

Hospital Medical Divert Areas for Hospitals

Critical Care (CC)

Any unstable patient which may require admission to a critical care bed, i.e.,:

- 1) Respiratory distress
- 2) Chest Pain
- 3) Shock
- 4) Coma

Labor and Delivery (L & D)

All Labor and Delivery patients including third trimester bleeding.

Medical / Surgical (Med/Surg)

Any patient who may require admission to a medical/surgical ward bed but not a critical care bed.

CT Scan (CT)

Any patient potentially needing CT scan, i.e.,:

- 1) Patients not responding to the AMS or seizure protocol
- 2) Patients with focal neurological signs.

Psy-



chiatric

Police officer civil hold (mental health) patients.

Emergency Department (ED)

Any patient who is not a direct admit to the hospital. (Does not affect Level 1 trauma center availability.)



Helpful Hints:

- **Medical** for divert purposes is any patient other than patients who meet trauma or stroke system entry criteria.
- Trauma or stroke system patients must be entered in the respective system through the Trauma Communications Center (TCC).
- If you are unclear on a patient's need of a divert service, call your medical direction hospital.