

G011 LFD GENERAL GUIDELINES: BASE CONTACT FOR PHYSICIAN CONSULTATION

Purpose

To explain the Medical Directors' expectations regarding base physician contact.

General Principles

- A. **"BASE CONTACT"** is contact with a physician who is familiar with the protocols.
- B. The LFD protocols function as standing order treatment guidelines designed to reflect WYOEMS practices and Medical Director oversight. Protocols are to be used as guidelines and cannot account for every patient scenario. Deviation from protocol may at times be justified and, in the patient's best interest. The LFD places great faith in the training and expertise of our EMTs and Paramedics and therefore a wide latitude is granted throughout the protocol.
- C. Base contact for physician consultation is not the same as emergency department prenotification of patient arrival and handoff. Base contact may be used in multiple care scenarios including but not limited to forewarning of unstable or complicated patients, patient refusal, and medical consultation and discussion.
- D. Throughout the protocol patient **"BASE CONTACT"** is used to signify the need for call in. These algorithm points are set and agreed upon by the LFD Medical Director and reflect critical decision points in care where communication with physician support is expected.

Preferred "BASE CONTACT" Times.

- A. Medical consultation should be readily available at all times and should be utilized in the following circumstances:
 - 1. Any time **"BASE CONTACT"** is required or recommended per protocol.
 - 2. Unusual presentations or patient care situations not covered by set protocol and outside the scope of practice or comfort level of care by individual prehospital provider.
 - 3. Necessary deviation from protocol deemed to be in the best interest of the patient.
 - 4. For selected patient care refusals as indicated by 0008 General Guidelines: Patient Non-Transport or Refusal.
 - 5. During the care of critically ill patient who is not responding to protocol/algorithmic treatment.