Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service FIRE CHIEF'S GENERAL ORDER

FCGO: 25-02

February 12, 2025

Coreysmedley

TO: All MCFRS Personnel

FROM: Fire Chief Corey A. Smedley

SUBJECT: EMS700 – Clinical Disposition Officer

The intent of EMS700 is to get patients to the right place in the first place, reduce turnover time, and enhance the clinical experience for our patients. When EMS700 is staffed, clinicians must contact EMS700 via radio for each patient encounter before finalizing the disposition of the call. This communication must occur before transport, obtaining a refusal, or otherwise departing from a patient's side. This includes when an MCFRS transport unit responds out of the county for mutual aid, or when an MCFRS ALS clinician upgrades an out of county transport unit as the primary clinician.

In the radio transmission, clinicians must include at minimum:

- The nature of illness/injury
- Pertinent assessment findings (e.g., LAMS score for stroke patients)
- The planned disposition, including a preferred destination when transport is indicated. Examples include:
 - "We're obtaining a patient refusal"
 - "We intend to repatriate to Suburban"
 - "The patient is eligible for transport to MedStar Urgent Care in Rockville"
 - "We are requesting to transport to Shady Grove Direct to Triage"
 - "We assisted an uninjured person off the floor and are completing an operational support report"

When transport is indicated, EMS700 will consider the current capability at each receiving facility and collaborate with the clinician to determine the destination. Field clinicians will provide hospital notification or consult as needed.

When EMS700 is busy and backed up due to volume and unable to handle the consult for a patient requiring emergent transport (e.g., STEMI, LVO stroke, high acuity trauma), clinicians should use good judgment and not delay transport only to consult with EMS700, especially when the transport destination is obvious.

When staffed, clinicians may speak directly with EMS700 via radio for any EMS Duty Officer consult such as hospital turnover delays, navigating complicated cases, or clinical questions.

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At all times, including when EMS700 is not staffed, clinicians must consider the following factors when making transport destination decisions:

- Patient priority and specialty referral needs
- Patient preference
- Repatriation for recent hospital admission or surgical procedure
- The capacity and capabilities of prospective destinations

Questions may be directed to the EMIHS Section Chief

