

LEGAL 2000 PATIENT TRANSPORT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE: To facilitate an equitable distribution to area hospitals of mental health patients who have the potential to be placed on a Legal 2000 hold following medical evaluation in the Emergency Department. These patients would include those who have a Legal 2000 form initiated in the field by an authorized person; or those who present to EMS personnel with suicidal ideation without a medical or traumatic component and who have no hospital destination preference.



Pediatric psychiatric patients are to be transported in accordance with the Pediatric Patient Destination Protocol

POLICY:

I. Hospitals

- A. Hospitals will be responsible for updating EMSsystem when they have a Legal 2000 patient, defined as a patient that has both sides of a Legal 2000 form completed and is awaiting transfer to another facility.
- B. Each hospital is responsible to update the count of Legal 2000 patients on EMSsystem as it changes within the hospital.

II. Transport Agencies

- A. EMS providers will determine, via real-time data, the appropriate facility for transport in order to evenly-load the system by transporting mental health patients, as defined above, to the closest hospital with the lowest number of Legal 2000 patients recorded on EMSsystem.
- B. If the mental health patient's condition is unstable or deteriorates then the transport agency may transport the patient to the closest appropriate facility.