

PURPOSE

The EMS Protocols under which the Ambulance Service operates require regular review and modification to maintain currency with accepted standards of practice and to improve patient care. The following policy and procedure addresses the manner in which protocol changes are reviewed and changes implemented.

POLICY

The patient care protocols will be reviewed at regular intervals. The Medical Director Advisory Committee (MDAC) to the Bayfield-Ashland Counties EMS Council will serve as the reviewing entity. The MDAC, defined in the EMS Council bylaws, is comprised of five elected representatives from the EMT Services, the Medical Director of those Services, an ALS representative, a representative from the local training center and a representative from MMC/Ashland.

PROCEDURE

1. Any person may request a protocol review and suggest changes to it.
2. Protocol review requests will be made by submitting a written request for such review to the MDAC or the medical director.
3. The protocol will be reviewed by the Medical Director who will submit a recommendation(s) to the MDAC.
4. The protocol will then be reviewed at the next scheduled MDAC and/or EMS Council meeting where any changes, deletions, or modifications will become recommendations.
5. The protocol will then be given to the Medical Director for review and approval.
6. If the protocol is not approved by the Medical Director it will return to the MDAC for further review.
7. If the protocol is approved by the Medical Director it will be forwarded by the EMS Council to the state EMS office for review and approval.
 - a. If it is determined that dissemination of the new protocol is time critical it will be made available to all EMTs upon approval by the state EMS office. The protocol will be reviewed at the next regularly scheduled in-house training session. The protocol will become effective on the date of the in-house training session.
 - b. If dissemination is not time critical it may be kept on file until the next protocol update publication. It will become effective at the time of publication.