

**HEMS
SYSTEM**

MIKE/ECHO UNIT: TREATMENT & TRANSPORT COORDINATION

Date: April 2013,

Section: 8-6 (S2)

Last Revised Date: 1/3/2024

Mike/Echo Unit: Treatment & Transport Coordination

Requirements:

A Mike unit (Limited Advanced Non-Transporting) will be staffed, at a minimum, with one licensed Specialist/AEMT. An Echo unit (Advanced Non-Transporting) will be staffed with, at a minimum, one licensed Paramedic. When transporting a patient Wayne County Medical Control Authority protocol staffing criteria, for transporting units, will apply.

The Mike/Echo Service must preplan to insure that the minimum staffing criteria of the Wayne County Medical Control Authority are met. The exception, which may apply, is a request for mutual aid into an area that provides only Basic Life Support or Medical First Responder service. All deviations from the standard staffing criteria will be documented on the Patient Care Record (PCR) along with the reason for the deviation.

Mike/Echo units will carry all required equipment specified for that level of service by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Patient Care Record (PCR)

Initial assessment and other interventions performed by the Mike/Echo crew will be documented on the PCR.

Time may not be available for completion of the PCR on scene. In this case the Mike/Echo crew will provide the transporting crew with a complete verbal report of their assessment, interventions performed, and other pertinent information. Time permitting, as much information as possible will be documented on scene, or a field note will be given to transporting crew. The transporting unit will document all responding crew members, department, and vehicles at scene in the PCR.

If the Mike/Echo crew assists with the transport of the patient one PCR will be completed with all responding crew members listed in that PCR. The PCR will be completed by the higher license level member.

Coordination of Treatment/Transport

The staff of the Mike/Echo unit will assist the transporting unit's crew (if the transporting crew is of equal or higher license), as necessary and required by law, with treatment and loading of the patient. If the Mike/Echo crew holds the higher license level, the crew will be responsible for coordinating treatment and transport. In this case the lower licensed transporting crew will assist the Mike/Echo unit crew with treatment, loading, and transport of patient and advanced equipment.

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In the event the drug box and/or IV kits have been utilized, and the Mike/Echo unit crew will not be accompanying the patient to the hospital, the transporting unit will take responsibility for the open box/IV kits. The sealed drug box and the sealed IV kits will be transferred from the transporting unit to the Mike/Echo unit. The Mike/Echo unit can return to available service status. This exchange should be concluded as quickly as possible to avoid any delay in patient transport. The transporting crew will document the chain of custody for the medication box and IV kits on the run form and appropriate pharmacy exchange forms at the receiving hospital.

Coordination of Response

Some ambulance requests may result in the immediate dispatch of the Mike/Echo unit and the transporting unit. Where an approved, nationally recognized Emergency Medical Dispatch program is in place, the dispatcher will have the responsibility for determining the actual response configuration based upon the established EMD criteria.

The dispatcher will provide both the Mike/Echo unit and transporting unit with the current location and ETA of the other responding unit.

If the ETA of the Mike/Echo unit is such that a transporting unit, on a scene, can complete treatment, loading, and safely deliver the patient to a hospital emergency department before the Mike/Echo unit can arrive on a scene, transport will be initiated. If the Mike/Echo unit arrives on a scene and the patient is loaded for transport in a lower licensed ambulance, the Mike/Echo unit crew will take appropriate advanced equipment to treat the patient and accompany the patient to the hospital in the transporting unit. Intercepts will only be attempted in those situations where the hospital is more than five minutes away and the intercept can be accomplished and advanced care initiated in less time than the patient can be transported to a hospital emergency department.

Life support units arriving on a scene will assess the patient to determine the appropriate level of care, then initiate transport of the patient at that level of care. If there is a question as to the level of care which may be needed by the patient during transport, the highest level of care will be provided on scene and en route to the hospital.

In the event all personnel from the Mike/Echo unit and the transporting unit are needed to treat the patient during transport, the Mike/Echo unit will be parked off the roadway and locked. The transporting service will be responsible for transporting the Mike/Echo crew back to the parked vehicle after the conclusion of the run, in a timely manner.

All Wayne County Medical Control EMS Protocols will be adhered to in the implementation of this protocol. In the event that either the Mike/Echo unit crew or transporting unit crew has any questions, Medical Control direction will be solicited.