



Emergency Medical Services

To: Washington County EMT Intermediates
Washington County EMS Provider Agencies

From: Louisa Partain, EMS Coordinator

Date: June 18, 2008

Subject: 08-004 EMT Intermediate Scope Upgrade Requirements

Memorandum of Record

All EMT Intermediates within Washington County must document 20 hours of continuing education directed at the Intermediate upgraded scope. This must be completed prior to practicing the expanded Intermediate scope and before December 31, 2008. EMT Intermediate expanded scope will be granted on an agency basis, once all Intermediates have met this requirement and authorization has been received from the agency's Supervising Physician. *(In the interim, all Intermediates should continue to operate on the 2007 Intermediate Treatment Protocols/Standing Orders.)*

Based on a sample survey of Washington County Intermediates and provider agencies, the EMS Office is recommending that the following topic areas be targeted:

- ECG Rhythm Interpretation
- Cardiac Arrest Management at Current ACLS Standards
- IV Therapy Skills
- Respiratory Emergencies
- Cardiac Emergencies
- Trauma and Medical Case Reviews
- Trauma Emergencies
- Medications

To assist local agencies in providing this education Washington County EMS will be scheduling 21 hours of continuing education tailored to the EMT Intermediate scope of practice. *(please see enclosed schedule/flier)* Local agencies are encouraged to provide additional training if their staff is unable to attend County provided classes.

Washington County EMS suggests each class to be no more than 3 hours in length. Agencies can substitute 12 hours of ambulance ride for 5 hours of classroom. Training officers should coordinate this option with Jan Lee at Metro West Ambulance.

Please remember that education should be meaningful to all participants. The topic list above is only a suggestion and each agency should spend more time on topics that are of greater pertinence to the upgrade of their staff. If an agency staff has expertise in rhythm interpretation then they should not feel bound to spending an additional 3 hours on that subject.

The goal of Washington County EMS is to assist providers in attaining the most current education and information. Thank you for disseminating this information to your staff and your continued support of excellence in EMS.