

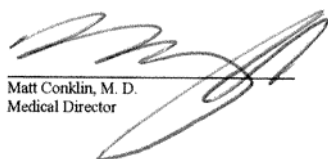
**SECTION: G-2**

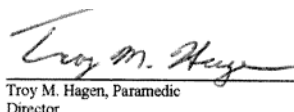
**PROTOCOL TITLE: Medical Direction**

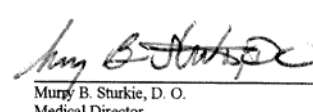
**REVISED: 15 April 2006**

These standing written orders (SWO's) are written physician orders giving Ada County EMS personnel the authority to implement procedures and administer designated medications.

- A:** These standing written orders are to be used only by Ada County EMS personnel operating under a medical control recognized by the Idaho State Board of Medicine.
- B:** These standing written orders may be implemented prior to the establishment of direct communication with Medical Control. Direct communication with Medical Control shall be established as soon as feasible in life threatening situations.
- C:** Direct communication with Medical Control shall be established prior to the release of any patient in the following categories:
  - Those who have received ALS care in the field prior to release (who do not fall under specific treat and release protocols).
  - Where questions over disposition exist.
  - As mandated for specific situations and protocols.
- D:** The type of medical control shall be documented when ALS care is provided.
- E:** No procedure or medication shall be used without the proper equipment or beyond the training, capabilities, or certification level of the EMS provider.
- F:** Procedures and medications that are **bold and underlined** normally require (see permissible exceptions below) a direct order from an acceptable medical control physician. An acceptable medical control physician includes either the Emergency Department Physician at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, St. Luke's Meridian Medical Center, or the receiving physician at the destination hospital. When a receiving hospital has not been established on-line medical control shall be St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center.
  - **EXCEPTION:** If attempts to establish communication with Medical Control fail, and a patient is at high risk for mortality or increased morbidity, or if the delay anticipated in establishing communication with Medical Control may result in mortality or increased morbidity, procedures and/or medications normally restricted to direct medical order may be performed or administered without the direct order of a Medical Control Physician. Communications with Medical Control shall be established as soon as possible. The reasons for the decision to institute treatment shall be clearly documented both in the chart and on the SWO deviation form.

  
Matt Conklin, M. D.  
Medical Director

  
Troy M. Hagen, Paramedic  
Director

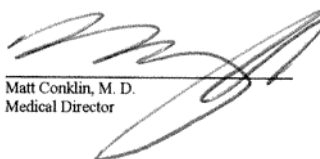
  
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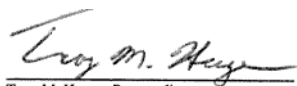
MEDICAL DIRECTION

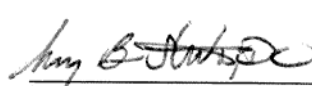
# Protocol G-2

## MEDICAL DIRECTION

- **EXCEPTION:** As an alternative, if communication with the receiving medical control physician is delayed (within two to three minutes), personnel may contact the Emergency Department Physician at any one of the other acceptable hospitals.
- G:** Unless specifically addressed in these protocols, a provider's scope of practice is assumed to include that of lower levels of providers. For example, an ALS level guideline is assumed to include the BLS and/or ILS scope as well.
- Unless specifically noted, paramedic level providers do not have the restrictions on treatments (for example, limits to number of IV attempts) that are imposed on lower level providers, and are expected to use sound clinical judgment in providing or deferring treatment under situations not specifically addressed.
- H: Alternative medical direction/Physician on scene:** Occasionally, a physician other than an approved medical control may wish to provide or direct patient care. In those situations the following shall apply:
- When a licensed Idaho physician is on location and requests a deviation from the SWO's, the physician must accept responsibility for patient care including attending the patient during transport. While the provider may assist the physician in procedures, the provider shall not exceed their scope of practice in performing procedures.
  - In the event of a licensed Idaho physician is on location but will not accept responsibility for patient care, **or** a licensed Idaho physician is directing patient care by telephone and a request for a deviation from SWO's, the following shall apply:
    - The Physician must be a Idaho licensed M.D. or D.O. with proper identification or personally known to the provider.
    - Personnel shall request that the private physician call the on-line medical control physician for consultation.
    - Personnel will then establish contact with medical control physician to confirm orders.
- I:** In all cases of patient transport, including those where direct medical control is not required, routine contact with the receiving hospital will be made as soon as feasible.

  
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