



OLD DOMINION EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ALLIANCE

Introduction and Purpose of the ODEMSA Protocols

The purpose of these protocols is to establish guidelines between EMS administration, the EMS provider, and medical direction for the management, treatment, and transport of specific medical emergencies.

These guidelines are intended to assist in achieving excellent, consistent prehospital care for patients. The following guidelines are not intended to provide a solution to every problem which may arise. The guidelines set forth are not designed nor intended to limit the EMS provider in the exercise of good judgment or initiative in taking reasonable action in extraordinary circumstances.

Prehospital care is a shared responsibility between the operational medical director, online medical control physician, and the EMS provider. The services that EMS providers are authorized to perform pursuant to the Virginia Emergency Medical Services Regulations shall be performed by the EMS provider only pursuant to the written or verbal authorization of the operational medical director or online physician medical control.

If MC is listed in the grid for the intervention, the provider must call medical control to obtain permission for the intervention.

Our objective is not only to serve the citizens and residents of our region but also to give them our best possible pre-hospital care. We will measure up to the high standard required of emergency medical services, only by coordinating our operations, working together, and maintaining a high degree of professionalism.

SERVING THE CITIZENS, EMS AGENCIES, ACUTE CARE HOSPITALS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN VIRGINIA PLANNING DISTRICTS 13,14,15 AND 19

7818 E. Parham Road, Suite 911 • Richmond, VA 23294
PHONE: 804-560-3300 • FAX: 804-560-0909 • www.odemsa.vaems.org



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- It is imperative that each EMS provider in the ODEMSA region has access to their own personal copy of the **“Regional Prehospital Patient Care Protocols.”**
- Each provider knows how to obtain the current copy of the regional protocols noted above
- Each provider can demonstrate the locations of the protocols in the following locations.
 - On each applicable EMS response unit, the agency/department has in service.
 - “Office” copy of the protocols
 - Has obtained their own personal copy of the Protocols.
 - Electronic copy via the ODEMSA App
 - Android – Google Play Store - ODEMSA
 - Apple – Apple App Store - ODEMSA
 - Potentially has printed copy of Protocols.
 - Can demonstrate how to update Protocols.
 - Printing out updates from the website:
<https://odemsa.net/regional-documents/>
 - Via the appropriate Electronic App from inside the App on their device(s).
- Can demonstrate the ability to reach the ODEMSA Website Home page and Regional Documents page.
 - [ODEMSA.net](https://odemsa.net)
 - Regional Documents at the following link:
<https://odemsa.net/regional-documents/>



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Acknowledgements

The ODEMSA region has benefited from the resulting Standard of Care that has been maintained and frequently enhanced by the ODEMSA Medical Direction Committee. The Committee is comprised of physicians that represent hospital emergency departments, EMS agency Operational Medical Directors (OMDs), trauma surgeons, and other physicians with an interest in or specialty that involves emergency medicine. While the Virginia Office of EMS, Virginia Department of Health, sets the minimum patient care standards, the ODEMSA Medical Direction Committee, in concert with other standing ODEMSA Committees, establishes the region's Standard of Care and oversees its Prehospital Patient Care Protocols.

The ODEMSA Board of Directors thanks each respective agency and individual who took the time to review and revise the Perception Manual and to update this manual that reflect the current, state of the art patient care.

We would like to recognize everyone who had a role in this life-saving project. No doubt with the volume of help that was received, we may have unintentionally missed some individuals. For any such oversight, we apologize. ODEMSA's goal is to review this manual periodically and to update this manual whenever necessary. We invite EMS providers, out-of-hospital, and in-hospital, to contact ODEMSA at any time with suggestions, questions, or comments.



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