

PATIENT REFUSAL

NOTE: Minors may not refuse medical care if their legal guardian is not present or cannot be contacted.

CRITERIA:

- 1) Patient refuses treatment or transport.
- 2) Patient is > 18 years old, or an emancipated minor.
- 3) Patient is < 18 years old, and one of the following:
 - a. Legal guardian is present.
 - b. Legal guardian contacted from the scene and consents to refusal.
- 4) Patient or legal guardian is competent and has the mental capacity to make an informed decision
 - a. The “Quick Confusion Scale” was administered and patient received a score of greater than 11

TREATMENT: ALL LEVELS

1. Ensure all refusal criteria are met in accordance with the “Refusal of Service” Policy
 2. Ask patient or guardian to explain reasons for refusal.
 3. Explain risks of refusal to patient or guardian.
 4. If patient or guardian does not demonstrate understanding risks of refusal, initiate care under implied consent.*
 5. If refusal represents a significant risk to the patient, based upon mechanism of injury or severity of illness, contact Medical Control for advice.
 6. If all criteria are met for refusal and risks of refusal have been explained, with reasonable understanding demonstrated by patient or guardian, refusal can be accepted and patient or guardian should sign refusal form.
 7. If patient or guardian is unable or unwilling to sign, document circumstances.
 8. Contact Medical Control, as necessary.
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*Implied consent: If a person were capable of giving consent, he or she would in these circumstances.