

LEON COUNTY E.M.S.

Standard Operating Guideline

Title: BA 52 Patient Transports
Effective: November 1, 2006
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Revision: 1
Pages: 2

I. PURPOSE:

To provide guidelines for safe transportation of “Baker Act” patients to continuing care facilities from acute care facilities.

II. GUIDELINE:

All “Baker Act” patients transported by Leon County EMS will be evaluated by the EMS crew prior to departing the Emergency Department for possible safety or elopement issues prior to assuming care of the patient in the Emergency Department.

III. PROCEDURE:

1. The EMS crew transporting a “Baker Act” patient to another facility for continuation of care will, prior to assuming care, evaluate the patient in the Emergency Department for safe transport.
 - A. The charge crew member will make contact with the P.E.R.P. staff and receive a brief report on the patient’s mental status and determine if crew safety issues are present as determined by patient behavior.
 - B. If patient behavior issues are present and the crew members feel that transport by EMS would be unsafe for the crew members, the crew member in charge will then contact the on-duty supervisor and advise of the situation.
 - C. The on-duty supervisor will then proceed to the Emergency Department and make a “go” / “no go” decision for transport via EMS.
 - D. If a “no go” decision is reached by consensus between the transporting crew and the on-duty supervisor then the patient will be refused transport by EMS and law enforcement will be summoned.
 - E. Once a “no go” transport decision has been made by the on-duty supervisor, the patient will no longer qualify for transport by EMS for the duration of the patient’s Emergency Department stay.
 - F. Any patient transported by EMS must be searched by Emergency Department Security for weapons or contraband both on their person and in their belongings

prior to EMS transport.