

Hamilton County Fire Chief's Diversion Log -Instruction Sheet

This diversion log sheet needs to be filled out any time the initially requested hospital for transport is reported to be on diversion by the county. The following will be a field-by-field breakdown of the required data needed from every department in Hamilton County. This log will be used for the months of NOVEMBER, DECEMBER/ 2004 and JANUARY, FEBRUARY/ 2005. Completed logs are to be submitted monthly to Chief Trish Brooks / Forest Park Fire Department.

Date – The date the diversion detail occurred

Time – The initial dispatch time of the run

Initially Requested Hospital - This is the hospital that is initially picked for transport by the patient or the crew of the ambulance.

Final Destination Hospital – This is the hospital to which the patient was finally transported. If the patient decides to be transported to their initially requested hospital after diversion is explained, the hospital entry would be the same as the previous field.

Patient Explained – Did the crew explain to the patient what diversion actually is and encourage them to choose an alternate facility? Put Y for yes, N for no. Standard template answers for the most common questions your patients have about going to other hospitals have been provided with this document.

Reason for Disregarding Diversion – This field should contain the reason that you continued to transport the patient to a hospital that is reported to be on diversion. Examples: The patient chose to still go to the diverted hospital, patient care dictated the diverted hospital for stabilization, trauma or protocol.

Total Hospital Time – To Hospital Time subtracted from your units Returning Time. Returning time is the actual time that you pull away from the ER, not the time you're available back in territory. Tracking this time will tell us how frequent units are experiencing longer transport times going to another hospital because of diversion.

Patient Transfer Time - At Hospital time subtracted from your units Returning Time. Returning time is the actual time that you pull away from the ER, not the time you're available back in territory. Tracking this time will tell us how frequently units are waiting longer in the ER to transfer patient care to the hospital staff of a facility that is on diversion.

What To Tell Your Patient About Diversion

Explain Diversion

A hospital goes on diversion when there are not enough beds or staff available in the emergency room or the hospital itself to adequately care for patients.

If They Choose To Go To The Hospital On Diversion

You still have the right to go to the hospital of your choice but understand, if your illness or injury is not serious, you may have to wait longer than usual to be seen by a doctor. Also, if you need to be admitted and there is a shortage of beds in the hospital, you may be held in the emergency room or other area of the hospital until the type of bed you need becomes available. There is also the possibility that you may be transferred to another hospital for admittance.

What If My Doctor Doesn't Go To A Different Hospital?

Your doctor will not come to the hospital's emergency room to evaluate you. Instead, the emergency room physician will consult with your family doctor if necessary.

Will My Insurance Pay If I Go To A Different Hospital?

If your condition requires care in the emergency room, health insurance generally covers that care regardless of which hospital you visit. This includes times when the hospital covered by your plan is on diversion and you are taken to a hospital not covered by your plan.

