



CENTRAL DUPAGE HOSPITAL
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM
POLICY & PROCEDURES

TITLE: HELICOPTER USE	
SECTION: FIELD OPERATIONS	POLICY NUMBER: B-7
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EFFECTIVE DATE: 01 AUG 2022	NUMBER OF PAGES: 1

PURPOSE: To provide guidance on the utilization of aero-medical (helicopter) for the transport of patients from the scene.

POLICY:

CDHEMSS providers may utilize aero-medical transport from the scene ***without*** medical control approval when all the following criteria are met:

1. The patient has a definitive airway:
 - a. Is breathing between 12-20 times / minute **or**
 - b. Has an advanced airway in place
 - i. I-gel
 - ii. ETT
 - iii. Surgical / needle cric
2. Has ***one or more*** of the following injuries
 - a. Head injury with persistent unconsciousness or focal signs (i.e. seizures, posturing, unable to respond to simple commands)
 - b. Penetrating injury to the neck
 - c. Gunshot wound or other penetrating injury to the chest
 - d. Gunshot wound to the abdomen
 - e. Other penetrating injury to the abdomen, groin, or buttocks
 - f. Spinal cord injury with paralysis, paresthesia of the extremities and/or sensory loss
 - g. Extremity trauma: mangled, crushed, or degloved with neurovascular compromise
 - h. Traumatic amputation proximal to the wrist or ankle
3. Transport time by ground to a Level 1 Trauma Center is > 25 minutes

For any other circumstance, Medical Control shall be contacted for approval for aero-medical use.

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