



*The Pre-Hospital Healthcare Team
for
Saginaw and Tuscola Counties*

Office of the Medical Director

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MEMORANDUM #2012-03

FROM: Office of the Medical Director
Saginaw Valley Medical Control Authority (SVMCA)
1000 Houghton Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48602

SUBJECT: STEMI Alert

Provider:

Recently there has been a push to transmit EKG's to the receiving hospitals. This has been misinterpreted as taking away the ability of the paramedic to call a STEMI alert. This is not the case. We have implemented an improved system which we hope will ultimately improve care for STEMI patients.

STEMI ALERT

- If the paramedic believes that the 12L EKG indicates a STEMI based on interpretation and definition in protocol, alert the hospital that you have a "STEMI ALERT". This should be done as early as possible, and in most cases, before transportation. No transmission is required, but may be helpful.

-OR-

- If the 12L monitor interpretation reads "***ACUTE MI***" and the clinical history is consistent with this diagnosis, alert the hospital that you have a "STEMI ALERT".

EKG CONSULT

- If you are unsure as to the interpretation, ask to speak to a physician for an "EKG CONSULT". This will alert the physician that you are going to attempt to transmit an EKG. The physician should then get back with you regarding their interpretation and orders.

"STEMI ALERT" should be said early in your radio report to the hospital. This will get the process rolling, and will likely get physician involvement early.

Transmission of EKG's is not required for any patient, however it may be helpful. Transmission is not required to activate the cath lab. You should only transmit the EKG if it will not delay patient transport or necessary field treatment.

If you have questions or feedback on specific cases, please bring these to our attention so we can address them.

Thanks for all you do!

Tom Charlton, MD
Assistant Medical Director