



The Pre-Hospital Healthcare Team  
for  
Saginaw and Tuscola Counties

Office of the Medical Director  
Noel Wagner, MD  
1000 Houghton Ave  
Saginaw, MI 48602  
(989) 583-7940  
Fax (989) 583-7941  
[www.SaginawValleyEMS.org](http://www.SaginawValleyEMS.org)

May 10, 2012

**MEDICAL DIRECTIVE #2012-04**

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

SUBJECT: Cardiac Arrest

In order for our system to advance to the next level of cardiac arrest care, the following updates will be implemented.

Dispatch will automatically send at least 2 units on all cardiac arrests that are potentially viable.

- All units will respond emergently (lights and sirens).
- Dispatch may disregard extra units when it is determined that adequate first responders are *on scene*.
- On scene personnel should disregard additional resources if not needed.
- The dispatcher may use discretion when 3 person ambulances (not containing students) are dispatched.
- 9B1 and 9Ω1 calls are exempt from this requirement.

The closest ambulance will be sent on all cardiac arrest calls.

- In areas that have a designated life support agency, that agency's ambulance will be:
  - The second unit dispatched if they are not the closest.
  - The transporting unit regardless of the arrival order.

In the event that a medical cardiac arrest results in staging (delayed entry for law enforcement, aka P-18), the closest unit only will continue emergently.

- Lights and sirens may be discontinued an appropriate distance from the staging area if the scene has not been secured.
- Second or additional units may downgrade until the scene is secured.

A medical director for the SVMCA may elect to establish medical command of the cardiac arrest via radio. This will occur when that medical director is not responding to the call.

- The medical director will establish medical command over the dispatch talkgroup.
- All further orders must go through the medical director.
- A pulseless *medical* cardiac arrest patient may not be transported without approval of the medical director once command has been established.
- Even if command is not established, EMS personnel are still encouraged to contact the medical director for orders or consultation.