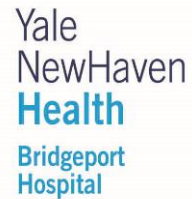


SPONSOR HOSPITAL COUNCIL of GREATER BRIDGEPORT



SHCGB Policy 1.0

Dated 09/01/2016

ADVANCED LEVEL RELEASE OF CARE TO LOWER LEVEL PROVIDER

Paramedics may terminate their EMS provider-patient relationship ONLY when they are assured that the patient will continue to receive care at the same or higher level, or when they have determined that patient care may be transferred safely to an EMS provider with a lower scope of practice. A decision to release the patient to lower-level care and transport shall be made solely on the basis of a complete and thorough assessment of the patient's clinical status and needs. Other factors (i.e., pending calls, imminent shift change) must not weigh in on the decision to release a patient to a lower-level ambulance.

The paramedic may release a patient to a lower-level ambulance crew for further care and transport only if all the following criteria have been met:

1. The paramedic has performed a complete assessment as outlined in these guidelines and has a high degree of confidence that the patient would not benefit in any way from advanced life support measures on scene or at any time during the transport
2. The paramedic and lower-level ambulance crew agree on a plan for subsequent patient care and the ambulance crew agrees to accept responsibility for subsequent patient care
3. The paramedic may not release a patient to a lower-level ambulance crew if any of the following exists:

Assessment findings indicate a need for ALS

- ALS-level assessments initiated by EMS, including ECG monitoring 4 or 12 lead and/or active Capnography
- ALS treatment initiated, including vascular access and /or any medications except oral glucose
- Lower-level ambulance crew is unwilling or expresses any concern with taking responsibility for patient care. Providers have the right to decline the transition of patient care
- The paramedic and lower-level ambulance crew cannot agree on a subsequent BLS treatment plan
- All cases in which patients are released to the care of BLS personnel must be thoroughly documented.
- A patient care report documenting all assessment findings, treatment rendered and the clinical decision making factors that played a role in the patient's release to a lower-level ambulance crew must be completed.

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