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<b>TITLE</b>	2015-036
<b>POLICY NO:</b>	Physician / Nurse Practitioner On-Scene

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**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Superior EMS strives to provide the highest level of pre-hospital care possible. From time to time you may have a physician or nurse practitioner on-scene offering assistance. This document outlines the expectations of Superior EMS staff when they receive patient care orders from someone on scene that is not a medical director associated with Superior EMS.

**SCOPE:**

All Staff and Volunteers

**POLICY:**

1. Definitions:
  - a) Physician: A duly qualified medical practitioner who is licensed to practice medicine in Ontario.
  - b) Nurse Practitioner: A duly qualified medical practitioner who is licensed to practice in advanced nursing roles in Ontario.
  - c) Medical Director: A licensed physician or nurse practitioner hired by Superior EMS, who provides direction to staff for the delegation of controlled acts.
  - d) Patient Care Order: Any verbal or written direction to perform a basic life support or advanced life support procedure.
2. Staff cannot provide patient care that is beyond Superior EMS authorization, or a delegated controlled act that he/she has not been certified to provide by the Medical Director.
  - a) If a Medical Director gives an order that is beyond the paramedics' scope of practice, the paramedic is to inform the physician that he is not qualified to perform the procedure.
  - b) An order from a Medical Director must not be made via third party
3. Staff are not permitted to take medical orders from physicians or nurse practitioners that are not part of the Medical Direction of the Company.
  - a) If a Non-Medical Director gives a patient care order that involves ALS standards (delegated acts) to a Staff member, the staff will inform the Physician that they are not permitted to conduct delegated acts unless given by their Medical Director.



- b) If there is a Physician on-scene that is taking control of patient care let them know that they have assumed responsibility for patient care and that you can help in any way within your scope of practice (for example BLS procedures, but not unapproved ALS procedures).
4. If the Staff member is unfamiliar with the physician/nurse practitioner taking control of patient care, the staff should attempt to ascertain if the person is a “physician” or “nurse practitioner” as defined in this policy statement. If the Staff is unable to satisfy him/herself that the person is a physician or nurse practitioner, the Paramedic should attend to the patient as per BLS/ALS standards.
5. If the Staff member is unsure that the care by the physician or nurse practitioner is appropriate for the patient, the Staff member should endeavour to advise the physician or nurse practitioner of his/her concerns, and contact the medical director if the concern subsequently still exists. The Staff member should carefully document the incident including the reasons why he/she was uncomfortable with physician or nurse practitioner patient care.

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<b>Date of Approval:</b>	September 28, 2016
<b>Date to be Reviewed:</b>	September 28, 2018
<b>Authority:</b>	Chief of EMS Operations

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