



**North Country  
Regional Emergency Medical Advisory  
Committee**

**Policy Statement**

*Serving: St. Lawrence, Jefferson, and Lewis Counties*

No. 17-02  
Date: 4/3/17  
Re: Refusal of Care  
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Supersedes:

**PURPOSE**

Guidance for patients who refuse medical care

**BACKGROUND**

Policy statement replaces previous special protocol with the adoption of the NYS Collaborative protocols

- Talk with patient, family and friends and attempt to convince the patient of the need for treatment/transport. Offer to call Medical Control and have patient speak with a physician.
- If patient still refuses treatment/transport and  $\geq 18$  years' old

**Assess Level of Consciousness:**

Alert and oriented x 3 / GCS x 15	Altered Mental Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess for the following:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempted/threatened suicide,</li> <li>• minor (&lt;18) refusing care,</li> <li>• parent refusing and the potential for a serious illness/child abuse exists</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient cannot refuse.</li> <li>• Contact Medical Control and/or elicit assistance from law enforcement.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Criteria Absent</u> Patient can refuse. Educate patient and family. Patient signs AMA on Regional Refusal Form.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Criteria Present</u> Patient cannot refuse. Contact Medical Control. Elicit assistance from law enforcement.</p>

- Medical Control must be contacted if treatment for Anaphylaxis has been done and the patient is refusing transport (I.e. Epi Pen, NYS Check & Inject)
- Under no circumstances should field personnel allow themselves to be placed in danger. If this potential exists, go to a safe area and call for assistance.