OKALOOSA COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Title:	**Patient Transport Destinations**
Policy:	**420.00**
Purpose:	**To ensure that patients are consistently transported to the appropriate medical facility.**

Policy:

Patient transport destinations should be determined using the following criteria:

1. OCEMS will transport stable patients to the hospital of their choice.
2. In an emergency situation, the unstable patient will be transported to the closest medical facility or specialty facility listed below if specific criteria is met as outlined in OCEMS Transport Protocols.
3. Trauma patients meeting trauma transport protocol criteria will be transported to the appropriate SATC as outlined in OCEMS Transport Protocols.
4. Stroke patients meeting Stroke Alert protocol criteria will be transported to the appropriate hospital as outlined in OCEMS Transport Protocols.
5. Cardiac patients meeting Cardiac Alert protocol criteria will be transported to the appropriate hospital as outlined in OCEMS Transport Protocols.

In the instance of an interfacility transfer, the patient should be transported to the facility noted on the patient transport form as directed by the transferring physician. If the patient's condition deteriorates while en route to the receiving facility, Medical Control should be contacted to request a diversion to the closest medical facility for evaluation and treatment. In the event of a diversion, the paramedic attending to the patient will contact the on duty shift commander who will in turn contact the original accepting physician to provide explanation as to why the diversion was necessary.

Accountability and Compliance:

1. All Alert patients are reviewed by the Shift Training Officer or designee to ensure Cardiac, Trauma and Stroke Alert patients are transported to appropriate facilities.
2. Any patients not transported to appropriate facilities will be formally reviewed with feedback provided to crew and EMS Command Staff.