



**Central New York Regional Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc.**

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November 25, 2009

Re: Air Medical Services

Dear Providers:

There seems to be some confusion over the functions and acquisition of Air Medical Services within the Central New York Region and surrounding Regions.

Let me assure and reinforce, nothing has changed.

At its time of inception, the Air Medical Clearing House was created to provide access to the closest appropriately staffed aircraft while at the same time taking every step for maximum safety. This is still the case.

Over the years, each county has signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the use of the Air Medical Services and the Clearing House. The only mechanism possessed by the Region to ensure safe and appropriate aircraft response is via the Clearing House. We expect that each agency understand and uphold the tenets of this agreement. Circumventing the Clearing House by contacting an independent provider leads to multiple aircraft unknowingly responding to an incident and escalating the risk for a calamitous disaster.

Aircraft originating within the Central New York Region follow established protocols as written and approved by the Central New York REMAC. Patient care administered by the flight teams incorporate these protocols, advanced training and their own inherent judgment regarding patient care. One specific agency should not be requested or ordered preferentially due to perceived abilities or capabilities. All Air Medical providers, like ground providers, are acting in the best interest of the patient.

Finally, I ask that ALL agencies and providers follow prescribed protocols and directions set forth by the Central New York REMAC to ensure appropriate and safe care of our patients and safety of all providers. Questions and concerns should be directly addressed to Central New York via the website.

Thank you for your continued support of EMS in Central New York.

Daniel J. Olsson, DO, FACOEP-D  
Regional Medical Director  
Central New York Emergency Medical Services