

II. CMED UTILIZATION STATEMENT

North Central Connecticut E.M.S. Council Position Statement For the Standardized Utilization of the North Central CMED System

The Regional Coordinated Medical Emergency Direction, (CMED), Communications System has been proven to be the backbone of prehospital Emergency Medical Services. Daily, hundreds of patients are affected by this system which links the prehospital providers in the field to the nurses and physicians at the sponsor and receiving hospitals. In the event of Mass Casualty Incidents, the CMED system also serves to coordinate E.M.S. resources in order to provide better patient care and decrease mortality and morbidity.

North Central CMED serves as the primary means of communication between the prehospital providers in the field and the Emergency Department physician for the purpose of medical direction. In addition, it is recognized that North Central CMED:

- ▶ Is the main coordination point for E.M.S. patches between ambulances and the hospital emergency departments of the north central region.
- ▶ Serves as an important link for quick, direct interfacility communication between Emergency Departments in the north central region.
- ▶ Is the main coordination point for E.M.S. units in the north central region during Mass Casualty Incidents / Disaster situations. North Central CMED will serve to coordinate E.M.S. response and assist in coordinating the dispersal of patients to area hospitals.

Standardized utilization of the North Central CMED System can be obtained by following the guidelines contained in the *North Central CMED Field Operations Manual*. The concepts contained therein provide the standardized operational procedures for hospitals and prehospital providers:

- ▶ To encourage the standardized utilization of the communications system, it is recommended that E.M.S. providers adhere to and train their staff in the operational procedures contained within the *North Central CMED Field Operations Manual*.

- ▶ To facilitate quality communication between the physician and prehospital provider, it is strongly recommended that all emergency department physicians complete a recognized course in E.M.S. radio operations and medical direction.

- ▶ Cellular telephones are recognized as a backup technology to be used as defined by the Office of Emergency Medical Services guidelines, to contact the regional CMED system for telephone patching, or directly to the sponsor hospital in case of CMED system failure.

In recognition of the benefits received through the Regional CMED System, the Members of the Medical Advisory and Communications Committees of the North Central Connecticut Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc., endorse the standardized utilization of North Central CMED by E.M.S. providers and hospitals in the north central region of Connecticut.

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