

LEGAL 2000 PATIENT TRANSPORT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE: To facilitate an equitable distribution to area hospitals of mental health patients who have the potential to be placed on a Legal 2000 hold following medical evaluation in the Emergency Department. These patients would include those who have a Legal 2000 form initiated in the field by an authorized person; or those who present to EMS personnel with suicidal ideation without a medical or traumatic component and who have no hospital destination preference.



Pediatric psychiatric patients are to be transported in accordance with the Pediatric Patient Destination Protocol

POLICY:

I. Hospitals

- A. Hospitals will be responsible for updating EMSsystem when they have a Legal 2000 patient, defined as a patient that has both sides of a Legal 2000 form completed and is awaiting transfer to another facility.
- B. Each hospital is responsible to update the count of Legal 2000 patients on EMSsystem as it changes within the hospital.

II. Transport Agencies

- A. EMS providers will determine, via real-time data, the appropriate facility for transport in order to evenly-load the system by transporting mental health patients, as defined above, to the closest hospital with the lowest number of Legal 2000 patients recorded on EMSsystem.
- B. If the mental health patient's condition is unstable or deteriorates then the transport agency may transport the patient to the closest appropriate facility.
- C. EMS providers will document rationale for transport destination decision.
- D. Upon EMS activation to Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services, stable patients shall be transported to the hospital that recently medically cleared the patient, even if that facility is not the closest or has the lowest hold census.