

	<b>Queen Anne's County Fire &amp; EMS Commission Operations Manual</b>	No. 03.03
	<b>EMS Response and Priority Transport Policy</b>	Effective Date: March 28, 2008  Revised Date: June 6, 2013

**I. SCOPE**

- A. This policy applies to all Queen Anne's County EMS service personnel.

**II. PURPOSE**

- A. Define the policy for safe EMS response and priority transport to area hospitals.

**III. RESPONSIBILITY**

- A. All personnel affiliated with a Queen Anne's County Fire and EMS Department will be responsible for ensuring strict adherence to this policy.

**IV. POLICY**

- A. Dispatch Response Codes

1. The following Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) guidelines shall be followed for responding on emergency calls:
  - a. An Omega response is classified as a non-emergent response. All units will respond in a non-emergent manner without the use of emergency lights or siren. The operator must abide by all state and local laws while responding in an Omega manner.
  - b. An Alpha response is classified as a non-emergent response. All units will respond in a non-emergent manner without the use of emergency lights or siren. The operator must abide by all State and Local laws while responding in an Alpha manner.
  - c. A Bravo response is classified as a low priority emergent response. The closest transport unit and first responder shall respond in an emergent manner. If an additional unit(s) is responding, this unit shall respond in a non-emergent manner.

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- d. A Charlie response is classified as a moderate priority emergent response. The closest advanced life support (ALS) unit and basic life support (BLS) unit shall respond in an emergent manner.
- e. A Delta response is classified as a high priority emergent response. All units dispatched on a delta response will respond in an emergent manner.
- f. An Echo response is the highest priority response. All units dispatched on an Echo response shall respond in an emergent manner.

**B. Transport Response Code**

- 1. Following Maryland Protocol the primary care provider will assign a clinical priority to the patient. The clinical priority will determine the response level the patient is transported. The provider driving the transport unit will notify the PSAP of the patient's clinical priority when departing the scene.
  - a. Priority 1 – Critically ill or injured person requiring immediate attention; unstable patients with potentially life-threatening injury or illness. Priority 1 patients will be transported in an emergent mode following Maryland Motor Vehicle Laws.
  - b. Priority 2 – Less serious condition, requiring emergency medical attention but not immediately endangering the patient's life. Priority 2 patients will be transported in an emergent mode following Maryland Motor Vehicle Laws.
  - c. Priority 3 – Non-emergent condition, requiring medical attention but not on an emergency basis. Priority 3 patients will be transported in a non-emergent mode following Maryland Motor Vehicle Laws.
  - d. Priority 4 – Does not require medical attention. Priority 4 patients will be transported in a non-emergent mode following Maryland Motor Vehicle Laws.

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William H. Faust, Chairman  
Queen Anne's County Fire & EMS Commission