

Purpose:

This standard outlines the process that allows for SAFE Station patients to be transported to an appropriate rehab facility utilizing peer support specialists, when available.

Standard:

All individuals who seek out transport for opiate recovery and rehabilitation shall go through a standardized screening process. Should the patient be found to have no active medical problems, meet the screening criteria, and obtain verbal acceptance from an appropriate drug rehabilitation facility, they can then be transferred to a contracted peer support specialist (if available) who will then handle transport.

If the patient meets any of the following criteria, the patient must be transported by EMS to the closest appropriate emergency department for medical evaluation. The transporting crew must notify the receiving ED that RREACT team should be notified.

1. Delirium, excited delirium or severe agitation
2. Any acutely altered mental status
3. Evidence of significant acute trauma, lacerations or head injury
4. Evidence of acute intoxication
5. Evidence of exacerbation of chronic illness
6. Evidence of acute medical illness (i.e. chest pain, trouble breathing, uncontrolled vomiting, fever)
7. New onset of psychiatric illness
8. Crew intuition

If the patient is declined admission to drug rehabilitation services and does not require medical attention/transport to the Emergency Department, they can be given a bus pass to help them get back to where they are staying, if needed.

Application:

In order for EMS crews to transfer an individual to a peer support specialist for transport to an appropriate rehab facility, they must:

1. All patients shall receive a minimum patient assessment as outlined in the applicable patient assessment protocol
2. Perform a complete screening process and sheet
3. Contact area drug rehab facilities (including MASC, Columbus Springs, and Sun Behavioral), notify them of results of screening sheet, and obtain verbal acceptance for the patient
4. Notify the patient that they will be transported to the determined facility via a peer support specialist
5. Obtain a "transferred to" signature within our EMS ePCR software
6. Complete an ePCR for the encounter