05- 1005 – Automatic Transport Ventilators

PURPOSE: To authorize EMT-Ps to monitor and adjust ATV's during scheduled interfacility transport.

POLICY:

2. Signed transfer orders from the transferring physician shall be obtained prior to transport. Transfer orders must provide for maintaining and adjusting ventilations via ATV settings during transport.

ATV:

a. EMT-Ps shall not initiate ventilator support.

b. Ventilator support must be regulated by an ATV familiar to the EMT-P. If an ATV failure occurs and cannot be corrected, the paramedic is to discontinue use of the ATV and initiate ventilation by bag-valve and notify the BH physician.

d. EMT-Ps shall continually observe the patient and document patient response to any changes while the device is operational. CCT-Ps shall chart the initial settings and any subsequent changes. Such documentation shall appear on the PCR report.

PRECAUTIONS: The EMT-P is responsible for all airway management and must frequently reassess endotracheal tube placement. Bilateral breath sounds are to be checked after each patient movement.

A non-invasive Bp monitor device shall be utilized. Frequent patient reassessment and monitoring of VS shall include pulse oximetry and cardiac monitoring, and shall be maintained throughout transport.

A continuous end-tidal CO2 detector must be employed during transport.

1. Confirm attending MD orders, including ATV rates, and report to base physician for review/approval prior to IFT.

2. Cardiac monitor,

3. Check and record V/S and lung sounds prior to IFT.

4. The ventilator that the provider is to use should be able to match the existing ventilator settings.

5. The following minimum device features (including circuit) must be present for this category of patient:

a. Set rate of ventilations

b. Adjustable delivered tidal volume

c. Adjustable Inspiratory and Expiratory ratios (I:E ratio)

d. Positive End-Expiratory Pressure (PEEP)

e. Peak airway pressure gauge

f. Modes:

Assist Control (AC)

Synchronized Intermittent Mandatory Ventilation (SIMV)

Controlled Mechanical Ventilation (CMV)

g. Alarms:

Peak airway pressure

Disconnect

h. Strongly recommended option - blend percentage oxygen.

6. Agencies using this equipment must be certain to follow the manufacturer instructions regarding the use, maintenance, cleaning and regular testing of this device.

a. The units must be disinfected after each use unless a disposable unit is used.

b. The units shall undergo preventative testing and maintenance by qualified personnel annually.

c. Agencies shall arrange for (at least) annual inspections and testing of the equipment by a manufacturer's representative (or designee). Documentation of this service shall be maintained in a service log. This record shall be kept by each agency using ATV's.

7. EMT-Ps must be thoroughly trained and regularly retrained in the device's use. Such training shall occur annually and shall be documented.