

	MULTNOMAH COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES			
	EMS OPERATIONAL POLICIES			
EFFECTIVE DATE: 12-8-1997	POLICY NUMBER: 120897-OPS	SECTION: 1	REPLACES: None	PAGE: 1 OF 1
MEDICAL DIRECTOR: JON JUI MD, MPH		TITLE: ADVANCED AIRWAY ISSUES		

This memo is intended to clarify operational issues related to the use of MCEMS Advanced Airway Management Protocols.

Q: Does the PIC change in presence of a paramedic with Advanced Airway training?

A: No, the PIC will continue to direct overall care of the patient. If requested by the PIC, will the paramedic with advanced airway assume responsibility of the airway aspects of the resuscitation.

Q: If the patient requires neuromuscular blockage, does the paramedic who is advanced airway trained need to accompany the patient to the hospital?

A: Yes, the paramedic who is responsible for the neuromuscular blockade must accompany the patient. The only exception to this policy is if an AMR paramedic has advanced airway training and agrees to accept the responsibility for the patient. The individual with advanced airway training must be at the patient's side (not driving).

Q: Can other paramedics who are not yet advanced airway trained assist in the procedure?

A: Absolutely yes. They can assist with the administration of the medications as well as intubation. However, the overall responsibility for the overall sequence and care of the airway remains the responsibility of the Advanced Airway paramedic. Specifically, proper dosing and sequence and compliance with protocols will be the responsibility of this paramedic.