

Grand Forks Fire Department

Standard Operating Procedures

SOP# 700.01	Section Emergency Medical Services	Title General Patient Care
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I. Scope

This standard shall apply to all members who provide prehospital care, treatment, or transportation for the sick and injured. It was promulgated to establish guidelines for members to follow when in contact with a patient.

II. General

- A. The general guiding principle of the department is to do no harm. Therefore, members shall always render whatever treatment is necessary, appropriate, and consistent with their level of training.
- B. All patients shall be treated with care and respect regardless of their age, gender, race, sexual orientation, medical condition, or ability to pay for any services provided.
- C. Each patient shall receive a thorough evaluation to determine his condition. Of immediate concern are:
 - 1. Airway.
 - 2. Breathing.
 - 3. Circulation.
 - 4. Control of bleeding.
 - 5. Stabilization of fractures.

- D. The primary evaluation and stabilization shall be performed where the patient is found unless circumstances present an immediate threat to the patient or caregiver.
- E. The patient shall be stabilized and packaged for transport to a medical facility if the patient's condition warrants.
- F. The department will recognize a "Do not resuscitate" order if the patient's physician is present or appropriate documentation has been presented.
- G. Clothing and personal property shall not be removed from the patient unless it interferes with proper treatment. The patient's modesty and right to privacy shall be strictly observed. Any search for identity shall be witnessed, preferably by a law enforcement officer. All valuables removed from the patient shall be turned over to a family member, the police, or ambulance personnel.