Tucson Fire Department
Medical Administrative Guidelines:

We have an App for that!

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Medical Director
Why an App?

- **Tech considerations:**
  - 35% of ALL Americans own smart phones
  - That number increases 5% annually

- **EMS considerations**
  - Resources must be readily accessible
  - Scope and breadth of practice evolving
  - Increasing complexity of work environment and patient profiles
  - Critical thinking and decision-making demand autonomy
Philosophy Behind the Method

- Administrative Orders are off-line orders approved by the TFD Medical Director. These orders are not intended to provide guidance for all medical or traumatic emergencies.

- It is expected that TFD EMS professionals provide care to the best of their ability and within their full scope of practice.

- If prudent and reasonable practice dictates a deviation from these orders, it is expected by the Medical Director that the Paramedic or EMT will provide the appropriate care and document the rationale and outcome accordingly.
Areas Covered

General Guidance
- MEDS Relays
- Transport Destinations
  - Trauma, Perinatal, Peds, Cardiac, Stroke Guidelines
- Definition of a Patient and Non-Patient
- Treat and Release
- Standard Patient Assessment
- General Triage and Transport
- Field Refusal
- Decision-making Capacity
- Death and Field Termination
- BLS & ALS Assessment Thresholds
- Standard BLS & ALS Care

Systems Approach
- Behavioral
- Cardiac Arrest: Continuous Cardiac Compressions & AHA
- Cardiovascular
- Environmental
- GI/GU/Gyn
- Injury, Trauma & Burn
- Metabolic
- Neuro
- OB/Neonatal
- Respiratory: congestive, obstructive, restrictive disease
- Human Services Referral
- References: Peds Drugs & equip. sizes; dosing clock, CO monitoring guide
Design Considerations

- Mobile Application
  - Works on all devices
  - Touch screen enabled
  - Works and behaves similarly on phone, tablet, desktop computer or TV
Cross Platform - All screens
User Considerations

- Information quickly accessible
- Simple and intuitive navigation
- Logically organized
- Searchable
- Only key concepts visible unless more detail needed
Our Application
Main Screen

- Typing in search box begins filtering out content
- Click to select
Progression: General to Specific

- Dropdowns and links are content/AO specific
Highlighted General Guidance

- Blue Color Denotes BLS Assessment Thresholds
- “+” Denotes dropdown content
Different Highlighting – Different Meaning

- Red Color Denotes ALS Assessment Thresholds
- Details can be scrolled
Customizable – Medical Direction Specific

- Modifications and updates can be done in real-time to reflect evidence based practice changes, regional protocols etc.
Integrated References and Tools

- All AOs build upon one another: all start with common assessment and treatments
- Hyper-links to references, contact information and auto-dial phone connection
Navigation Always Visible – Top and Bottom

- Key Concepts appear first
- Dropdowns for more detail
- Telephone numbers are instantly dialed with push of a button
- Adds Structure and Simplifies Processes
- Improves Consistency
- Decreases Radio Time
Metric Usage Data – What’s In It For the Medical Director?

- Viewable aggregate App usage by all crews on all calls
- Usage trends may indicate areas that need to be addressed formally in CE
- Usage metrics can help determine need for revisions and updates
App Kitty!
The People of Substance Behind the Front Man

- Michael Martinez
- Adrienne Hollen
- Darin Wallentine
- Norma Battaglia RIP