



Advisory 18-05 EMS Pre Arrival Stroke Alert – Gaze Abnormality

To: All Fire and EMS Agencies and Providers

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Beginning June 1, 2018, EMS providers making Stroke Alert notifications to any of the MLREMS Stroke Centers via phone may be asked questions about a gaze preference or gaze deviation being present on their patient's clinical exam.

Gaze abnormalities may be significant when assessing the potential stroke patient, specifically when combined with positive findings from the Cincinnati Prehospital Stroke Scale (CPSS). The presence of all elements of the CPSS and a gaze abnormality suggests a large vessel occlusion and may benefit by embolectomy which is available at only two area hospitals. Thus, at the discretion of Medical Control, you may be asked to divert to an embolectomy capable facility if clinical findings are concerning for a large vessel occlusion stroke. In this region, those two facilities are Rochester General Hospital and Strong Memorial Hospital.

A short (7 minute), online video is available <https://youtu.be/lu1OsiVaelo> which will review the assessment of both gaze preference and gaze deviation. There is no CME associated with this short video, but all providers are encouraged to review the material and learn this simple yet important assessment for stroke.

There are no additional changes to the expectations for stroke care within the MLREMS region. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Division of Prehospital Medicine.

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