



TRANSPORT OF THE CHRONICALLY VENTILATED PATIENT

PURPOSE

This policy outlines the expectations surrounding the prehospital transport of the chronically ventilated patient.

POLICY

The following Ventilator Management Algorithm guides the EMS clinician in determining the resources and care expectations for providing a chronically mechanically ventilated patient with the safest possible transport.

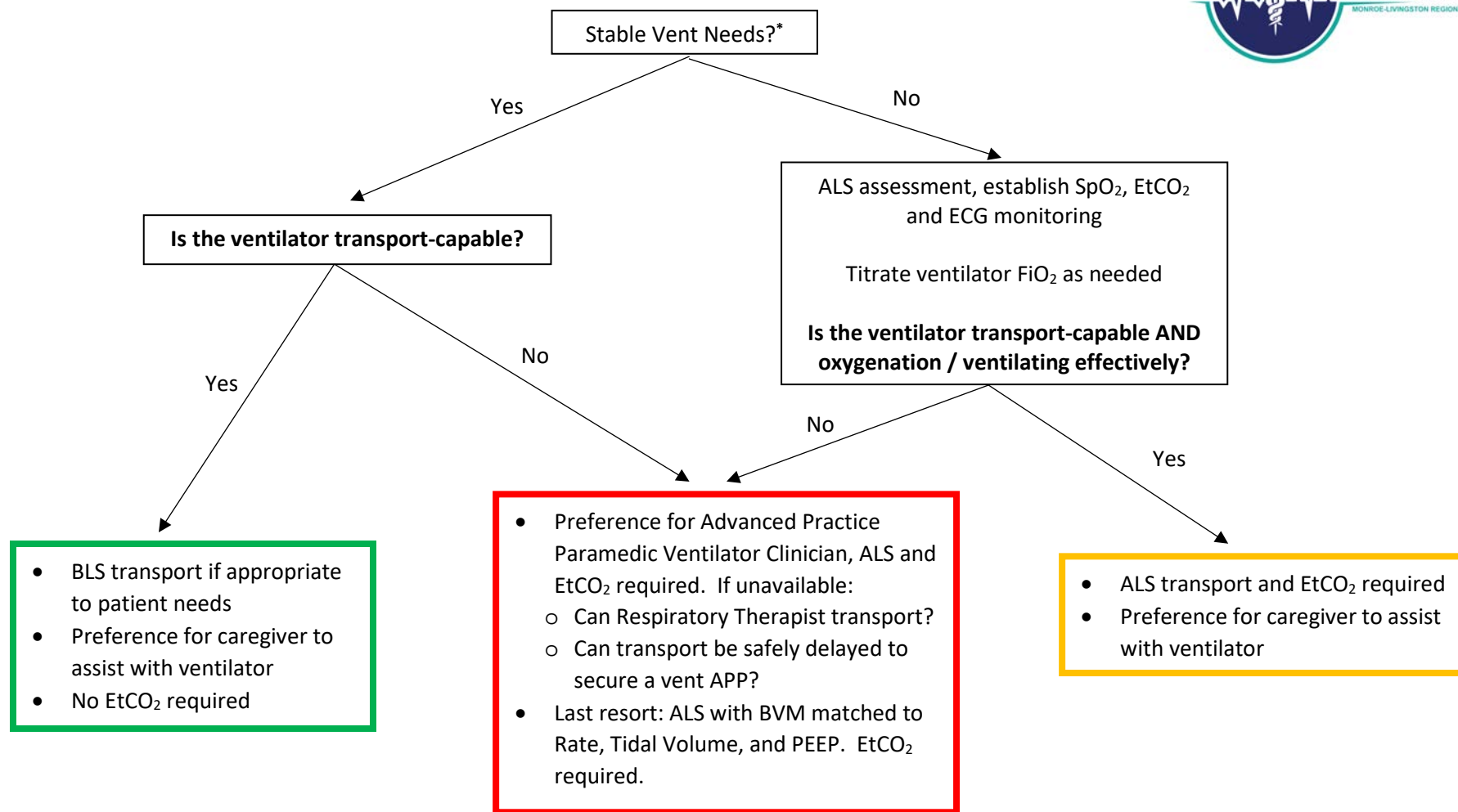
Whenever possible, the patient should be maintained on their transport ventilator and the caregiver may assist with the ventilator during transport.

Managing a ventilator is a skill that requires additional training and credentialing. Paramedics may be credentialed by their agency and its Medical Director consistent with MLREMS Advanced Practice Paramedic Credentialing Policy and the associated Advanced Practice and Specialty Care Paramedic Education and Competency expectations for Credentialing.

Training on and/or purchase of prehospital transport ventilators is not a requirement of ALS agencies, and is an optional program that may be used when available by credentialed Advanced Practice Paramedics trained in its use according to manufacturer's guidelines, regional policy, and as approved by the Agency Medical Director. The agency using such a device must have a written policy outlining how they will implement the prescribed MLREMS Advanced Practice Paramedic Credentialing requirements, eligibility, quality improvement program, continuing education, and parameters for use of the specific device being used by the agency.

Approved by the Monroe-Livingston REMAC 6/16/2025

Transport of the Chronically Ventilated Patient



* **Stable Vent Needs** defined as **ALL** of the following:

- Adequate oxygenation ($\geq 92\%$)
- Normal hemodynamics (Heart Rate and Blood Pressure)
- Not otherwise requiring ALS for their presenting problem (eg dyspnea, respiratory distress, chest pain, altered mental status, sepsis, etc)
- Not requiring any changes to their ventilator settings
- Does not have a persistent ventilator alarm