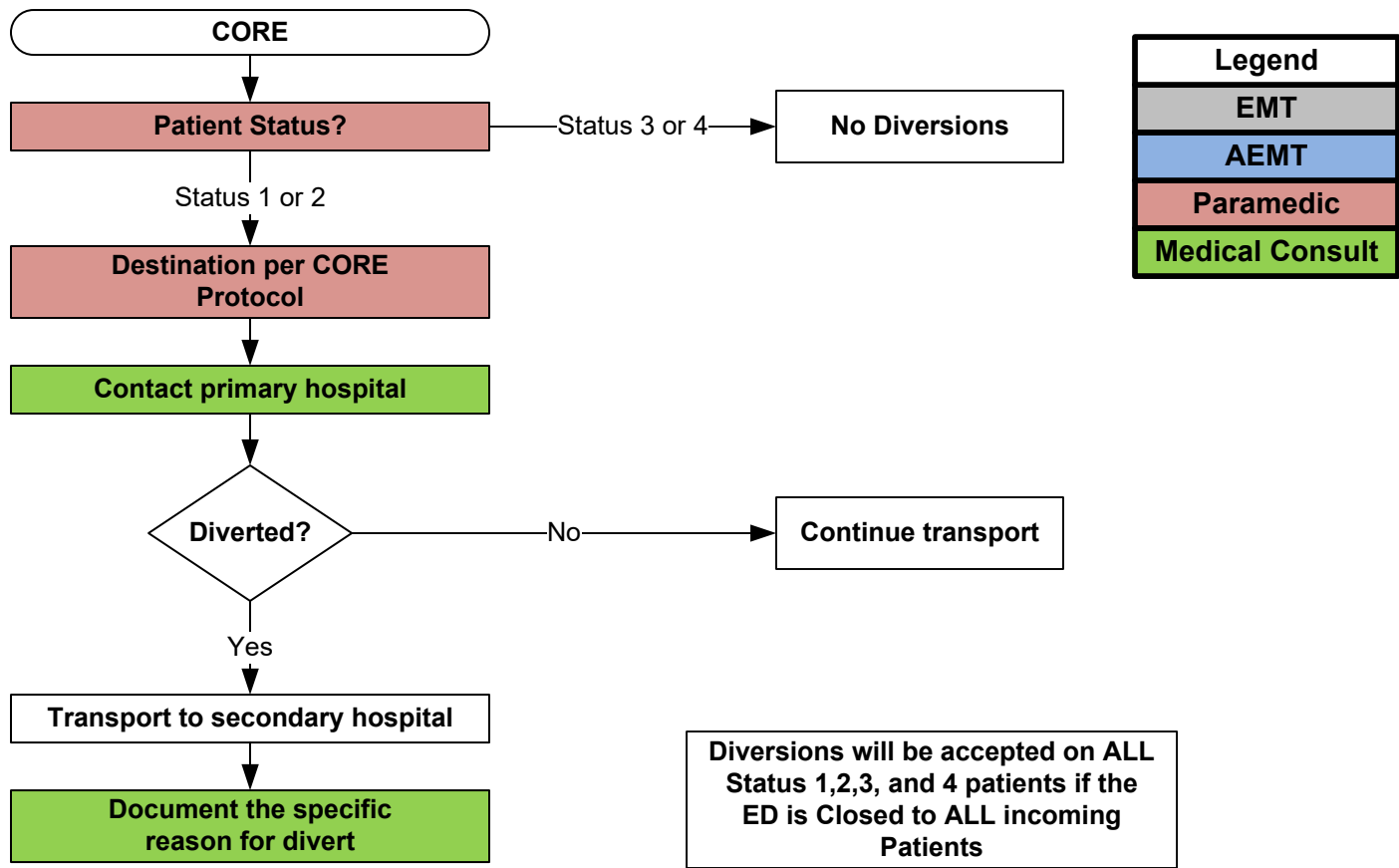


DIVERSION



Pearls:

- **Five acceptable reasons** for diversion of Status 1 or 2 patients:
 1. The patient's **medical condition** warrants transport to a **closer** hospital for stabilization.
 2. **Non-functioning diagnostic capabilities**: specific diagnostic or interventional capabilities that are needed to assess the patient's condition are temporarily non-functional (i.e., CT scan for stroke and PCI for STEMI patients).
 3. **Mass casualty incident** (multiple trauma patients in the ED).
 4. **ED closure** to all incoming patients (i.e., ED flooding, etc.)
 5. **ED Saturation** (temporary lack of capabilities or capacity).
 - Saturation is only accepted if transport to a secondary hospital is less than 15 minutes further.
- Medic must document in the ePCR:
 1. For all diversions, the specific reason given for divert and the hospital personnel diverting
 2. For Non-functioning Diagnostic Capabilities, the specific capability
- When diverted by the primary hospital, contact dispatch and proceed to the secondary hospital.
- WE DO NOT HONOR DIVERSIONS FROM SECONDARY HOSPITALS because of the resulting transport delay. Diversion will only be honored when received by the primary hospital.
- **Unacceptable reasons** for diversion of Status 1 or 2 patients: ICU saturation, no neurosurgery capabilities, no orthopedic surgery capabilities, no telemetry, no psychiatric capabilities, & inadequate staffing outside the ED. The patient WILL be transported to the primary destination.
- **Diversions WILL NOT be honored on Status 3 or 4 patients**. In the event that the primary hospital requests diversion on these patients, respectfully state our no diversion policy on Status 3 or 4 patients.
- Diversions will not be honored on the following Status 1 patients where the **closest hospital is the definitive care** hospital: cardiac arrest, uncontrolled airway, suspected uncontrolled tension pneumothorax, or other condition requiring immediate life saving measures.
- Patient choice supersedes this **DIVERSION Protocol**. When the patient is adamant about being transported to a facility against the advice and judgment of the paramedic or Diversion Status, complete the "Patient Refused Treatment/Transport Signature" within the ePCR or an **AGAINST MEDICAL ADVICE** form prior to transport.
- USE THE RECORDED LINE!
- If a diversion order is received from Parkland Hospital, see the **Parkland Hospital Diversion protocol** in the Appendix.