



*Knowing **Life** Matters*

The Green Book

Clinical Protocols

The Green Book Clinical Protocols are treatment protocols which outline acceptable assessment and treatment modalities in the pre-hospital environment. These protocols incorporate evidence-based guidelines, expert opinion and EMS industry best practices to ensure that our medical staff continues to deliver the highest quality of pre-hospital patient care to our patients.

The clinical protocols are intended to be used to treat patients in the emergency setting. During inter-facility transports, patient care is typically directed by the sending physician and anticipated orders should be obtained prior to departing the sending facility when possible. In the event of a change in the patient's condition, our medical staff may employ the use of the *Green Book* protocols to provide immediate care of the patient when a potential life threatening condition exists.

A patient is defined as any person who has an actual or potential injury or medical problem and who is encountered by LaSalle medical personnel. This includes individuals who have requested EMS services themselves, or for whom EMS services have been requested by a third party. Essentially, if someone exhibits signs of illness or injury, requests evaluation, or is in a situation that could reasonably lead to illness or injury, they are considered a patient. For emergencies, all patient encounters in which patient contact has been made by LaSalle medical personnel must have a medical record documented. For inter-facility transports, a medical record must be created any time LaSalle medical personnel have initiated any treatment or have applied any LaSalle Ambulance medical equipment to the patient. Medical records are required even if the patient was not transported.

The CORE section of our protocol manual provides for a systematic approach to assessment for all emergency patients. In addition to identifying patients with time-sensitive illness and injuries, the section also provides valuable information to influence destination decisions. Lastly, the CORE section addresses other issues including but not limited to non-transports, call reports, etc. to be used in conjunction with other sections of the manual.

The Airway, Cardiac, Medical, OB, Pediatric and Trauma protocols describe the essentials of patient care. In general, patients should receive the care outlined in the protocol unless there is a compelling reason to forego a specific assessment and/or intervention. The protocols are not a substitute for good clinical judgment.

The Green Book protocols were designed to ensure safe, efficient and effective interventions to relieve pain and suffering and improve patient outcomes. Additionally, the protocols serve to ensure a structure of accountability and continuous quality improvement.

LaSalle Ambulance is a Just Culture organization which promotes an environment of shared accountability, learning and changing behaviors when indicated. Our Quality Improvement Team will employ the principles of Just Culture as necessary when a breach of protocol occurs or other medical investigation is required.