

**Municipality of Anchorage
Anchorage Fire Department
Memorandum**

DATE: January 11, 2008 **OPS 08-07**

TO: All Personnel

THROUGH: Dr. Michael Levy, Medical Director
Erich Scheunemann, Assistant Chief

FROM: Doug Schrage, Deputy Chief, Operations

SUBJECT: Cardiac Arrest PIAs (Update and Reissue of EMS 06-28)

The EMS Battalion Chiefs will be conducting Post Incident Analysis (PIA) reviews with AFD crews for all cardiac arrests (including Station 11 responses to the fullest extent possible). AFD responses to cardiac arrests in Chugiak and Girdwood VFD service areas should be reviewed as applicable.

With the ever changing and improving science behind resuscitation guidelines, the deployment of new equipment, skills and pharmaceutical interventions, a professional and choreographed effort must be evaluated for quality improvement with each of these highly visible and acute events. Conducting PIAs will help all members of the response team integrate their performance with one another and improve future responses, cardiac arrest or otherwise.

PIAs for other high acuity EMS responses such as MVIs, MVCs requiring extrication and significant medical/trauma patients will also be conducted as necessary and will follow P&I 905-13 Post Incident Analysis guidelines as appropriate.

Cardiac Arrest review checklists will be HIPAA compliant and all documents will be stored in a secure location within the EMS 1 office or their secured closet at Station 4. Any current or future electronic documents from these PIAs will be stored in a HIPAA compliant and secured electronic environment.

Specific to cardiac arrest PIAs, the following guidelines will be implemented and recognized by EMS BCs and AFD personnel immediately:

1. Preferentially, the Cardiac Arrest review checklist will be completed by the EMS BC prior to the PIA.
2. An informal and brief PIA will be conducted at the emergency scene (if appropriate), the receiving hospital's medic break room or apparatus garage, or the fire station. Initiated by the EMS Battalion Chief, the PIA will involve single or multiple companies as appropriate. Refer to P&I 905-3 Section 2.0 (Post-Incident Preparation) as necessary.
3. HIPAA compliance and professionalism will be maintained at all times.
4. Training documentation in the form of medical CME will be entered into the training database by the EMS BC or his/her designee for all personnel involved with the PIA.
5. A brief summary of the cardiac arrest and subsequent PIA will be e-mailed to the Medical Director and Chief of EMS within one (1) working shift of the event.