

Medical Control Authority Quick Reference Guide

- MCA oversight/hierarchy
 - MDHHS – Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (governmental)
 - BEPESoC – Bureau of Emergency Preparedness and Systems of Care (governmental)
 - DESoC – Division of EMS, and Systems of Care (governmental)
 - MCA – Medical Control Authority (quasi-governmental) – administered by participating hospitals within the designated region
 - ✓ Quasi-Governmental – government delegation and oversight, but operationally managed privately
 - Laws and Rules
 - Public Health Code Act 368 of 1978 as Amended: [Part 209 – Emergency Medical Services](#)
 - Life Support Agency and MCA Rules ([R 325.22101 to R 325.2218](#))
 - Authority of the MCA
 - A quasi-governmental individual entity that is the responsibility of the member hospitals located within the MCA's geographical area, with the interest of the EMS system first and foremost
 - Responsibilities include MCA infrastructure design (bylaws), operational support, and compliance with statute and rules
 - MCA must be able to perform all responsibilities set forth in law and rules, specifically [MCL 333.20918](#) of Public Health Code Act 368 and Section 10 of Life Support Agency and MCA Rules ([R 325.22101 to R 325.2218](#))
- MCA Boards/Committees, and Composition
 - Board of Directors – appointed by member hospitals
 - Composition - majority must be members of the hospitals that make up the MCA
 - Advisory Body – advises the MCA board in matters such as medical director appointment, protocols, etc., does not make decisions on behalf of the MCA, must meet quarterly.
 - Composition – minimum of a representative from each LSA and personnel type (MFR, BLS, ALS)
 - PSRO (Professional Standards Review Organization) – quality control and complaint investigation
 - Composition – can be any composition that provides appropriate QA/QI review
- MCA Staff
 - Medical Director
 - Requirements
 - Board Certified in Emergency Medicine (OR)

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- Practices emergency medicine and current certification in ACLS and ATLS
- Duties
 - Participate every 2 years in an MDHHS approved education related to medical control
 - Responsible for supervision, coordination, implementation, and compliance of MCA
- Key Staff
 - Not statutorily required but integral to an MCAs ability to function and remain compliant with both governmental and internal (bylaw) requirements.
- MCA Responsibilities
 - Personnel Approval and Compliance
 - Personnel must possess a state license to practice in the State of Michigan
 - Personnel must be approved (credentialed/privileged) by the MCA they are working in
 - MCA must have a process for approval
 - MCA can suspend/revoke privileges within the MCA but cannot suspend/revoke an EMS license
 - Agency Approval and Compliance
 - New agencies must be approved by the MCA prior to applying for licensure
 - Medical Director must sign initial application before the department will issue a license
 - Medical Director must review and sign all agency annual renewal licensure applications
 - Personnel and Agency Compliance/Disciplinary Action
 - MCA must have a Professional Standards Review Organization (PSRO)
 - MCA must have a complaint investigation and resolution protocol
 - MCA must have a disciplinary action appeal protocol
 - MCA must notify The Department within 1 business day of disciplinary actions taken.
 - Protocols
 - Protocol Approval
 - All protocols (new or revised *even one-word revisions) must be submitted to the department for approval following an application process
 - Medical Director must sign protocol applications
 - MCA Board must approve protocols at the MCA level
 - Impacted parties (providers and agencies) must be provided with at least 60 days for public comment on all new or revised protocols
 - Protocol Compliance
 - Protocols carry the weight of law for all participants in prehospital care

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- They are considered physician's orders for directing patient care and system operations
- On-line medical direction must be in line with protocols ([MCL 333.20918\(1\)](#))
- Dispatch
 - MCAs must have a dispatch protocol
 - PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) are required to have MCA approval for 911 calls involving licensed EMS agencies
 - PSAPs are otherwise governed by the State 911 Administration in accordance with the Emergency 9-1-1 Service enabling Act
- Pharmacy
 - Hospitals own medications, boxes, and bags of an MCA drug box system.
 - MCA determines how boxes/bags are purchased, but they are owned by the hospitals.
 - Medications must be managed within the compliance of both pharmacy and MCA protocols and laws
- Open Meetings Act – [MCL Act 267 of 1876](#)
 - MCA committees that are making final decisions for an MCA must follow the OMA, this should be outlined in the MCA bylaws