

KITTITAS COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES				
OPERATING PROCEDURE	EFFECTIVE DATE: August 11, 2011	NUMBER: 2	SUPERSEDES DATE: December 7, 2006	PAGE: 1
SUBJECT: RESPONSE TIMES				
RECOMMENDED BY KC EMS/TC COUNCIL:		RECOMMENDED BY MEDICAL DIRECTOR:		
Signature: _____		Signature: _____		
Name: Craig McKee, Chairman Lee Hadden, Vice Chairman		Name: Jackson S. Horsley, MD		

I STANDARD

All licensed and trauma verified aid and/or ambulance services shall respond to emergency medical and injury incidents in a timely manner in accordance with Washington Administrative Code (WAC 246-976-390 [10]).

II. PURPOSE

- A. To provide “timely” emergency medical services to patients who have medical and/or injury incidents requiring emergency care response.
- B. To collect data required by the *Washington Emergency Medical Services Information System (WEMSIS)* and by the Regional Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Plan.
- C. To comply with the South Central Region Patient Care Procedure #2 guidelines and the Washington Administrative Code for EMS and Trauma Systems.

III. PROCEDURES

- A. Trauma verified aid and/or ambulance services *are responsible for documenting the WEMSIS data elements.*
- B. *Included in the WEMSIS information will be unit response times. Verified aid and/or ambulance services shall meet the minimum agency response times to response areas as defined in WAC.*

Trauma Verified AID Service

Urban	8 minutes or less-80% of the time
Suburban	15 minutes or less -80% of the time
Rural	45 minutes or less-80% of the time
Wilderness	As soon as possible

Most recent amendment is in ***bold***.

Recommended: 6/6/96

Past amendments: 6/10/99, 10/2/2003, 11/4/2004, 12/7/2006

Recent amendments: 8/11/2011

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Trauma Verified AMBULANCE Service

Urban	10 minutes or less-80% of the time
Suburban	20 minutes or less -80% of the time
Rural	45 minutes or less-80% of the time
Wilderness	As soon as possible

C. Licensed/verified **ambulance services** should meet the following minimum agency response times for their defined response areas as recommended by the Kittitas County Medical Program Director and Kittitas County EMS and Trauma Care Council, *eighty percent of the time*.

1. Agencies responding to incorporated areas (**GOAL**):

- a. Kittitas Valley Fire & Rescue (KVFR) responding within the city limits of Ellensburg should meet the urban response area standard.
- b. KCHD#2 Ambulance responding within the city limits of Cle Elum should meet the urban response area standard.
- c. Cle Elum Fire Department responding within the city limits of Cle Elum should meet the urban response area standard.

2. Agencies responding to unincorporated areas (**GOAL**):

- a. Kittitas Valley Fire & Rescue responding in Hospital District #1 within a seven to ten (7-10) mile radius of their station, but outside the city limits of Ellensburg, should meet the suburban response area standard. KVFR responding in HD#1 between a ten and thirty (10-30) mile radius of their station or when responding in HD#2 should meet the rural response area standard. KVFR responding in HD#1 outside a thirty (30) mile radius of their station in areas where the roads are not paved or maintained during any given season should meet the wilderness response area standard.
- b. KCHD#2 Ambulance responding in Hospital District #2 within a seven to ten (7-10) mile radius of their station, but outside the city limits of Cle Elum, should meet the suburban response area standard. HD#2 responding between a ten to thirty (10-30) mile

Most recent amendment is in **bold**.

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radius of their station or in HD#1 (as defined in COP #1) should meet the rural response area standard. HD#2 responding outside a thirty (30) mile radius of their station in areas where the roads are not paved or maintained during any given season should meet the wilderness response time standard.

- c. Cle Elum Fire Department responding, per mutual aid agreement with HD#2 Ambulance within a five (5) mile radius of their station, but outside the city limits of Cle Elum, should meet the suburban response area standard (CEFD would be responding outside their normal response area). CEFD responding in HD#2 between a ten to thirty (10-30) mile radius of their station or in HD#1 (as defined in COP #1) should meet the rural response area standard. CEFD responding in HD#2 outside a thirty (30) mile radius of their station in areas where the roads are not paved or maintained during any given season should meet the wilderness response time standard.
 - d. Kittitas County Fire District #7 responding per mutual aid agreement with HD#2 within a five (5) mile radius of their station (s) should meet the suburban response area standard. FD#7 responding in HD#2 between a ten to thirty (10-30) mile radius of their station or in HD#1 (as defined in COP #1) should meet the rural response area standard. FD#7 responding in HD#2 outside a thirty (30) mile radius of their station in areas where the roads are not paved or maintained during any given season should meet the wilderness response time standard.
- E. Licensed/verified **aid services** should meet the following minimum agency response times for their defined response areas as recommended by the Kittitas County Medical Program Director and Kittitas County EMS and Trauma Care Council, *eighty percent of the time*.
- 1. Agencies responding to incorporated areas (**GOAL**):
 - a. Kittitas Fire Department responding within the city limits of Kittitas should meet the suburban response area standard.

Most recent amendment is in **bold**.

Recommended: 6/6/96

Past amendments: 6/10/99, 10/2/2003, 11/4/2004, 12/7/2006

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- b. South Cle Elum Fire Department responding within the city limits of S. Cle Elum should meet the suburban response area standard.
 - c. Roslyn Fire Department responding within the city limits of Roslyn should meet the suburban response area standard.
2. Agencies responding to unincorporated areas (**GOAL**):
- a. Kittitas County Fire District #1 responding in FD#1 boundaries within a five (5) mile radius of their station (s) should meet the suburban response time standard. FD#1 responding outside a ten (10) mile radius of their station should meet the rural response time standard. Does not apply to wilderness area.
 - b. Kittitas County Fire District #3 responding in FD#3 boundaries within a five (5) mile radius of their station should meet the suburban response time standard. FD#3 responding outside a ten (10) mile radius of their station should meet the rural response time standard. Does not apply to wilderness area.
 - c. Kittitas County Fire District #4 responding in FD#4 boundaries within a five (5) mile radius of their station should meet the suburban response time standard. FD#4 responding outside a ten (10) mile radius of their station should meet the rural response time standard. Does not apply to wilderness area.
 - d. Kittitas County Fire District #6 responding in FD#6 boundaries within a five (5) mile radius of their station (s) should meet the suburban response time standard.**
 - e. Kittitas County Fire District #7 responding in FD#7 boundaries within a five (5) mile radius of their station (s) should meet the suburban response time standard. FD#7 responding outside a ten (10) mile radius of their station should meet the rural response time standard. Does not apply to wilderness area.
 - f. Kittitas County Fire District #8 responding in FD#8 boundaries and defined response area should meet the rural response time

Most recent amendment is in **bold**.

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standard. FD#8 responding outside of their defined response area should meet the wilderness response time standard.

IV. DEFINITIONS

Urban – Incorporated area over thirty thousand; or an incorporated or unincorporated area of at least ten thousand people and a population density over two thousand people per square mile WAC 246-976-010.

Suburban – Incorporated or unincorporated are with a population of 10,000 to 29,999, or any area with a population density of less than 1,000 to 2,000 people per square mile WAC 246-976-010.

Rural – Incorporated or unincorporated areas with total population less than 10,000 or with a population density of less than 1,000 per square mile WAC 246-976-010.

Wilderness – Any rural area that is not accessible by public or private maintained roadways WAC 246-976-010.

Response Time – Interval of time from agency notification to arrival on the scene. It is the combination of activation and in route times defined under response times WAC 246-976-390.

EMS Personnel – means an individual certified by the secretary or the University of Washington School of Medicine under chapters 18.71 and 18.73 RCW to provide prehospital emergency response, patient care and transportation.

WEMSIS – Washington EMS Information System

Most recent amendment is in **bold**.

Recommended: 6/6/96

Past amendments: 6/10/99, 10/2/2003, 11/4/2004, 12/7/2006

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