



National Association of EMS Physicians®

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NAEMSP® Position Statement

EMS Provider Determinations of Necessity for Transport

The National Association of EMS Physicians® Believes that:

- There may be potential for EMS providers to avert unnecessary emergency department visits by providing a medical assessment to determine whether patients can safely be managed without emergency transport to an acute care facility.
- While evidence supports determination of necessity of transport to acute care facilities by EMS providers in certain select situations, in general evidence is currently lacking to establish that EMS providers can universally make determinations about necessity of transport.
- Prior to adoption of EMS provider initiated non-transport programs, there should be evidence in the peer-reviewed literature that demonstrates that EMS initiated non-transport for the specific situation is a safe practice.
- A prerequisite to EMS provider decision to not transport requires at minimum: additional education for the providers, a quality improvement process, and stringent physician oversight.

Approved by the NAEMSP® Board of Directors on April 14, 2011