

**Date:** July 29, 2019

**To:** All Stations and Offices

**From:** Paul Estopiñan, Division Chief  
Logistics Division

**Subject:** Bariatric Patient Transport Procedures

**Memo #:** 07-19-468

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[SOP I-B-13 Bariatric Patient Transport Procedures](#) is currently being revised. In the meantime, the following procedures will be followed until the new procedure is published:

All rescue units equipped with Stryker Power Loader stretchers are capable of transporting patients up to 700 pounds. Rescues without a Stryker Power Loader stretcher can transport patients up to 400 pounds, and will request through FAO the closest Stryker-equipped rescue for transport of any patient between 400 and 700 pounds.

Any units needing to transport a patient that exceeds the capabilities listed above, will request an ALS or BLS Bariatric transport unit through the FAO. The FAO will dispatch the Support Officer to respond with Bariatric Rescue 88 for all ALS bariatric transports. BLS Transport will be requested from the current contracted private ambulance companies. If a private BLS bariatric transport is not available, FAO will dispatch the Support Officer to respond with Bariatric Rescue 88.

Upon arrival at the incident, the on-scene unit will transfer the patient and all necessary equipment into the bariatric rescue. The entire crew except for the on-scene driver will continue patient care and transport in the bariatric rescue. The bariatric rescue is only equipped with BLS supplies, on-board suction and oxygen. The on-scene rescue will bring their Lifepak, Airway bag, Medical box, and any other necessary equipment with them.

The Support Officer will drive the bariatric rescue from the incident scene to the appropriate hospital. The on-scene unit driver will follow the bariatric rescue to the hospital. After the patient is transferred to the Emergency Room, the Support Officer will ensure the on-scene unit crew retrieves all of their equipment from the bariatric rescue and then will return to the Support Office. The on-scene unit will go back in service according to standard procedures.

There is currently no automatic dispatch of TRT, EMS Captains or additional units for manpower. If these resources are required, they must be requested by the on-scene unit OIC or the Support Officer.

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