



Central Shenandoah Emergency Medical Services Council

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Date: October 5, 2006
To: EMS Agencies and Providers
From: Matt Lawler, Assistant Director, CSEMS Council *ml*
Re: Acquisition of ECG Tracings

It has recently come to the attention of the CSEMS Council that some EMT-Basics are under the impression that they can obtain 3-lead ECG tracings for the receiving hospital or responding ALS providers. This is not the case.

Under the CSEMS Council protocols that became effective August 1, 2006, *properly trained* EMT-Basic and higher certified providers may obtain 12-lead ECGs. The 12-lead ECG tracing should then be transmitted to the receiving hospital. If not equipped to transmit the tracing, contact Medical Control and advise the machine's interpretation of the tracing.

The only providers authorized to obtain and interpret 3-lead ECG tracings are Cardiac Technicians, EMT-Intermediates and Paramedics.

If you have any questions regarding acquisition of ECG tracings, please contact the CSEMS Council or your Operational Medical Director.

cc: Regional Operational Medical Directors
Chris Corbin, EMS Program Representative
S. Heather Phillips, EMS Program Representative Supervisor