

**REGION I EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
STANDING MEDICAL ORDERS  
EMT – Paramedic-Expanded Scope**

**Procedure: Use of Automatic Transport Ventilators (ATV)**

**Overview: This SMO would allow properly trained and approved ALS transport providers to use the CAREvent (ALS) manufactured by O\*Two Medical Technologies Inc to transport patients already on mechanical ventilators from one facility to another.**

**INFORMATION NEEDED**

- \_\_\_ Patient’s current volume, rate, PEEP, and FiO2 on mechanical ventilator
- \_\_\_ Patient’s history and medications
- \_\_\_ Patient’s current O 2 Saturation
- \_\_\_ Any other pertinent patient history
- \_\_\_ The transferring physicians’ choice of settings available on the CAREvent ALS, in a written “Medical Order”.

**OBJECTIVE FINDINGS**

- \_\_\_ **The CAREvent ALS is to be used under the written orders of transferring physician, with direction of the facility Respiratory Therapist prior to transport. (Use attached Form)**

**PROCEDURE**

- \_\_\_ Assure stable airway and adequate ventilation on the current transferring facility ventilator with the respiratory therapist/nurse. Review the ventilator settings available on the CAREvent ALS with the Physician and or Respiratory Therapist/Nurse. Review this information with the Respiratory Therapist/Nurse and or Physician prior to removing ventilator and replacing with the CAREvent ALS. Verify the Physician’s written orders for the CAREvent ALS. If there is a conflict with a medical order for the CAREvent ALS contact the transferring Physician. If problems arise or are unresolved contact Medical Control before placing the patient on the CAREvent ALS.
- \_\_\_ With assistance of referring facility Respiratory Therapist/Nurse, transfer patient to CAREvent ventilator. Ventilator settings for the CAREvent ALS should be ordered by the transferring Physician and set by the crew with the assistance of the Respiratory Therapist/Nurse. Patient would be monitored by Respiratory Therapist/Nurse for a minimum of 5-10 minutes to assure compliance to CAREvent ALS.
- \_\_\_ Referring facility Respiratory Therapist/Nurse will verify ventilator settings prior to transport. EMT-Paramedic will document setting and patient assessment prior to departing referring facility.
- \_\_\_ While in-transit, EMT-Paramedic reassess ventilator settings and patient respiratory compliance every 5 minutes. Reassessment will be documented on patient care report.
- \_\_\_ If during transport an equipment malfunction occurs, and/or the ventilator is not maintaining adequate respiratory compliance, the ventilator will be disconnected from the patient and the EMT Paramedic will Bag (using a bag valve mask-BVM) the patient and contact Medical Control for orders and patient disposition.

- \_\_\_ Upon arrival of the patient at the receiving facility the Emergency Department Staff and /or RT will verify ventilator settings and assist with transfer of patient from CAREvent ALS ventilator to the facility ventilator. The name of the RT/Staff, ventilator settings, and patient assessment at the receiving facility will be documented on the patient care report.
- \_\_\_ A copy of the patient care report will be faxed the KCHEMS office within 24 hours of transport for CQI review and data collection.
- \_\_\_ If an Adverse Reaction occurs, the patient care report will immediately be faxed to the KCHEMS office followed with a telephone call to the System EMS Coordinator.

**Documentation of adherence to protocol:**

- \_\_\_ Document patient settings on original mechanical ventilator
- \_\_\_ Document patient settings on CAREvent ALS transport ventilator
- \_\_\_ Document every five minutes of ventilator settings and respiratory compliance.
- \_\_\_ Documentation of receiving staff person’s name, patient assessment, and setting of ventilator of receiving facility
- \_\_\_ Include Physician order in documentation.

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| <b>Medical Control Contact Criteria</b>  |
| ___ Contact Medical Control if ventilator malfunctions, and /or does not maintain respiratory compliance |

**PRECAUTIONS AND COMMENTS**

- \_\_\_ If CAREvent ALS fails or alarm sounds, disconnect CAREvent ALS from patient’s ventilation tube, attach BVM with supplemental oxygen and begin to ventilate patient manually.
- \_\_\_ If patient is still difficult to ventilate suction ventilation tube and check tube placement, re-attempt manual ventilation and re-assess patient
- \_\_\_ If ventilation does not improve notify Medical Control for direction