

## Medical Control Authority Quick Reference Guide

- MCA oversight/hierarchy
  - MDHHS – Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (governmental)
    - BEPESoC – Bureau of Emergency Preparedness and Systems of Care (governmental)
      - DESoC – Division of EMS, and Systems of Care (governmental)
        - MCA – Medical Control Authority (quasi-governmental) – administered by participating hospitals within the designated region
          - ✓ Quasi-Governmental – government delegation and oversight, but operationally managed privately
  - Laws and Rules
    - Public Health Code Act 368 of 1978 as Amended: [Part 209 – Emergency Medical Services](#)
    - Life Support Agency and MCA Rules ([R 325.22101 to R 325.2218](#))
  - Authority of the MCA
    - A quasi-governmental individual entity that is the responsibility of the member hospitals located within the MCA's geographical area, with the interest of the EMS system first and foremost
    - Responsibilities include MCA infrastructure design (bylaws), operational support, and compliance with statute and rules
    - MCA must be able to perform all responsibilities set forth in law and rules, specifically [MCL 333.20918](#) of Public Health Code Act 368 and Section 10 of Life Support Agency and MCA Rules ([R 325.22101 to R 325.2218](#))
- MCA Boards/Committees, and Composition
  - Board of Directors – appointed by member hospitals
    - Composition - majority must be members of the hospitals that make up the MCA
  - Advisory Body – advises the MCA board in matters such as medical director appointment, protocols, etc., does not make decisions on behalf of the MCA, must meet quarterly.
    - Composition – minimum of a representative from each LSA and personnel type (MFR, BLS, ALS)
  - PSRO (Professional Standards Review Organization) – quality control and complaint investigation
    - Composition – can be any composition that provides appropriate QA/QI review
- MCA Staff
  - Medical Director
    - Requirements
      - Board Certified in Emergency Medicine (OR)

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- Practices emergency medicine and current certification in ACLS and ATLS
- Duties
  - Participate every 2 years in an MDHHS approved education related to medical control
  - Responsible for supervision, coordination, implementation, and compliance of MCA
- Key Staff
  - Not statutorily required but integral to an MCAs ability to function and remain compliant with both governmental and internal (bylaw) requirements.
- MCA Responsibilities
  - Personnel Approval and Compliance
    - Personnel must possess a state license to practice in the State of Michigan
    - Personnel must be approved (credentialed/privileged) by the MCA they are working in
    - MCA must have a process for approval
    - MCA can suspend/revoke privileges within the MCA but cannot suspend/revoke an EMS license
  - Agency Approval and Compliance
    - New agencies must be approved by the MCA prior to applying for licensure
    - Medical Director must sign initial application before the department will issue a license
    - Medical Director must review and sign all agency annual renewal licensure applications
  - Personnel and Agency Compliance/Disciplinary Action
    - MCA must have a Professional Standards Review Organization (PSRO)
    - MCA must have a complaint investigation and resolution protocol
    - MCA must have a disciplinary action appeal protocol
    - MCA must notify The Department within 1 business day of disciplinary actions taken.
  - Protocols
    - Protocol Approval
      - All protocols (new or revised \*even one-word revisions) must be submitted to the department for approval following an application process
      - Medical Director must sign protocol applications
      - MCA Board must approve protocols at the MCA level
      - Impacted parties (providers and agencies) must be provided with at least 60 days for public comment on all new or revised protocols
    - Protocol Compliance
      - Protocols carry the weight of law for all participants in prehospital care

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- They are considered physician's orders for directing patient care and system operations
- On-line medical direction must be in line with protocols ([MCL 333.20918\(1\)](#))
- Dispatch
  - MCAs must have a dispatch protocol
  - PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) are required to have MCA approval for 911 calls involving licensed EMS agencies
  - PSAPs are otherwise governed by the State 911 Administration in accordance with the Emergency 9-1-1 Service enabling Act
- Pharmacy
  - Hospitals own medications, boxes, and bags of an MCA drug box system.
  - MCA determines how boxes/bags are purchased, but they are owned by the hospitals.
  - Medications must be managed within the compliance of both pharmacy and MCA protocols and laws
- Open Meetings Act – [MCL Act 267 of 1876](#)
  - MCA committees that are making final decisions for an MCA must follow the OMA, this should be outlined in the MCA bylaws