


 OSPITAL NG PARAÑAQUE 		Document Code: OSPAR-ADM-TRANS 003	
		Issue Date:	
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION APPROVAL MATRIX Policy Title: POLICY ON DRIVING THE AMBULANCE		Section / Department TRANSPORTATION SECTION	
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Prepared By: Melvin Secretario, RN HEMS Coordinator Marlorey D. Villamaria Head, Transportation Services	Reviewed By: Rizalina Lavarias, CPA Head – Accounting Meda M. Calderon, RN, MAN Chief Nurse	Reviewed By: Arnaldo S. Cortes, RN Supervising Administrative Officer Redentor P. Alquiroz, MD Chief of Clinics	
Approved by: Darius J. Sebastian, MD, MPH,PHSAE Hospital Administrator			Jefferson R. Pagsisihan, MD, MHM Hospital Director

Objectives: To optimize the safety and quality of care delivered by OSPAR and reducing the risk of staff and patient during the trip.

Procedure on Driving

1. Always utilize defensive driving techniques:
 - a.) Right of way – when in doubt, defer the right-of-way.
 - b.) Lane Choice – is the right – most lane.
 - c.) Horn – if needed use “two short taps on the horn” never blare the horn in anger, the siren is not used in normal driving to gain attention of other road users.
 - d.) Turns – check that the lane is clear, signal them, check again and then make turn.
 - e.) Speed – never exceed posted speed limits.
2. Use of emergency procedure (i.e. light & siren)
3. Always utilize priority driving:
 - Priority one (1) calls are declared when responding to/ with a patient with life threatening injuries/medical condition.
 - All emergency lights should be activated, siren may be used as appropriate with in traffic and through intersections.
 - At intersections, the driver comes to complete stop and proceed in stages ensuring that all road users are fully aware of his intentions.
 - Priority two (2) calls are declared for non-emergent cases that are not time critical. During these cases emergency lights may be activated, but the siren is not used. Drivers must adhere to all road traffic statutory regulations.
 - Priority three (3) calls are for non-emergent calls for medically stable minor conditions. Vehicle dispatched on P3 calls may not utilize any emergency driving procedures, and must adhere to all road traffic statutory regulations.

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4. As far as possible, be considerate of others when activating the siren, and be aware that most drivers are not able to pinpoint from which direction the siren is coming from. In addition, the siren should not be used sparingly when responding at night, especially in residential areas. If possible do not use the siren whilst a patient is in the vehicle, as this may cause unnecessary stimulus and agitation.
5. Speed limits when driving Priority 2 or 3 are as posted on that stretch of road.
6. On a Priority 1 call drivers may exceed the posted speed limit by a maximum of m/h.
7. Provider, crew and patient safety must be the priority during ambulance Operations. Anticipate and be ready to compensate for the poor driving habits of other road users.
8. Always remain calm and courteous to other road users.