Mercy EMS Education

Clinical Operations Team

Fine Tuning Our Practice



December 2, 2025

INTEGRITY

The accurate and thorough charting on all Patient Care Reports (PCRs) is the responsibility of each provider. Every patient contact requires **two complete sets of vital signs**, and all vitals should be synced from the monitor whenever possible. This applies to **all calls**, including lift assists, patients requesting vital checks, AMA situations, and transported patients. If this was no possible, thorough documentation of the circumstances of our inability to obtain two sets of vitals.

Remember, PCRs are **legal documents**, and there is **zero tolerance** for falsifying or documenting inaccurate information such as vitals. These reports must accurately reflect the events of the call, the patient's complaints, and the care provided. Thank you for your attention to detail and commitment to maintaining the highest standards of patient care and documentation.

IM or IV Ketamine sedation should be reserved for violent behavioral health patients only and not as initial dosing for severe pain complaints.

- **IM Ketamine should not be used for pain complaints.**
- **IV Ketamine sedation can be used in extreme cases such as terminal/extensive burns, etc.**

Patients with abdominal pain, recent diagnosis of pancreatitis, transport to the ED should be ALS when available.

- **Pancreatitis can cause severe pain, but also intravascular volume problems including hypotension.**
- **IV, possible iv pain medications, cardiac monitoring for electrolyte abnormalities and possible IV fluids.**



PERTUSSIS

Pertussis is becoming more common in our communities, especially with the increasing numbers of unvaccinated patients in our communities. Please use mask, eyepro and gloves with fevers and respiratory symptoms. Also, make sure your Tdap (tetanus with pertussis) vaccination is up to date.



Cadaver Lab coming: Jan 6, 7, and 8

