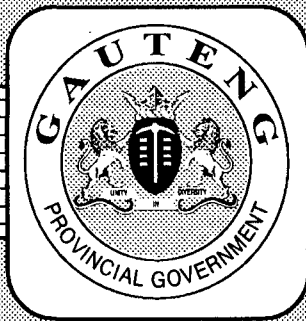


Draft Regs.

**THE PROVINCE OF  
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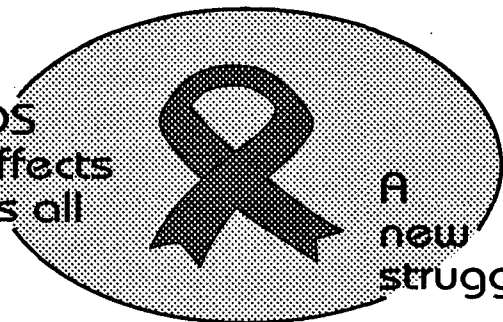
**Vol. 9**

PRETORIA, 19 FEBRUARY 2003  
FEBRUARIE 2003

**No. 58**

**We all have the power to prevent AIDS**

AIDS  
affects  
us all



A  
new  
struggle

**Prevention is the cure**

**AIDS  
HELPUNE**

**0800 012 322**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



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**CONTENTS**

<i>No.</i>	<i>Page No.</i>	<i>Gazette No.</i>
<b>GENERAL NOTICE</b>		
496 Ambulance Services Draft Regulations: For comments or representations.....	3	58

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## GENERAL NOTICE

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NOTICE 496 OF 2003

*GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH*

### **PUBLICATION OF THE AMBULANCE SERVICES DRAFT REGULATIONS**

Notice is hereby given that the member of the Executive Council for Health (Dr. G. Ramokgopa) intends to prescribe Regulations as published in this Extra Ordinary Provincial Gazette.

Any person or organization wishing to comment on this proposed Regulations may lodge written comments or representations on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003 by posting, faxing or handing them in at the following address:

**Attention:** Dr. M. Ahern (Chief Director: Health Services Support)

**Postal Address:** Gauteng Department of Health  
Private Bag X085  
MARSHALLTOWN  
2107

**Physical Address:** Gauteng Department of Health  
37 Sauer Street  
JOHANNESBURG  
2000

**Tel:** (011) 355-3883  
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**E-Mail Address:** mariona@gpg.gov.za

## GAUTENG AMBULANCE SERVICES DRAFT REGULATIONS, 2003

THE Member of the Executive Council responsible for Health in the Province of Gauteng has, under section 16 of the Gauteng Ambulance Services Act, 2002 (Act No.6 of 2002 ) made these Gauteng Ambulance Services regulations in the schedule.

### SCHEDULE

#### 1. DEFINITIONS

In these regulations, unless the context otherwise indicates, any expression or word to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act, has the meaning so assigned; and-

**“Accredited Ambulance Service”** means an ambulance service accredited by the MEC as suitable for the medical management of persons in an emergency care situation.

**“ACLS”** means Advanced Cardiac Life Support.

**“ALS”** means Advanced life Life Support.

**“APLS”** means Advanced Paediatric Life Support.

**“ATLS”** means Advanced Trauma Life Support.

**“Ambulance”** means to an appropriately equipped vehicle, waterborne, airborne or land-based, designed or adapted to treat and convey a patient in an emergency care situation, marked in such a way to indicate the category of medical care and transportation of the said vehicle and staffed with a minimum of two registered emergency care providers.

**“Ambulance Service”** means any private or state organization that is dedicated, staffed and equipped to render:

- (i) emergency medical care;
- (ii) inter-hospital medical treatment;
- (iii) transport of the ill and/or injured; and
- (iv) the medical rescue of patients from a medical rescue situation, detrimental to the health of an individual or community.

“**BLS**” means to Basic Life Support.

“**Board**” means that the Gauteng Ambulance Services Board established in terms of the Act.

“**Disaster**” means a progressive or sudden, widespread or localised, natural or human caused occurrence causing a catastrophic situation whereby the day to day patterns of life are, or are threatened to be, disrupted and people are, or are threatened to be, plunged into helplessness and suffering.

“**EMS**” means to Emergency Medical Service(s).

“**Emergency Medical Service**” means a complex and extensive organisation of people, equipment and facilities that come together specifically to respond to the emergency healthcare needs of a community. Ambulance Services are a major and integral part of an Emergency Medical Service.

“**Emergency Care Incident**” means an event which requires immediate preventative and / or remedial medical intervention.

“**Emergency Medical Service Communications System**” means to any communication system established which serves as a facility for the co-ordination of personnel and resources of an emergency medical service and which utilises emergency medical telephonic triage, a published emergency telephone number and has immediate and direct communications with personnel, facilities and other relevant agencies.

“**Emergency Care Personnel**” means to personnel appropriately registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa.

“**HPCSA**” means the Health Professions Council of South Africa.

“**ILS**” means to Intermediate Life Support

**“Inspecting Officer”** means a person appointed by the MEC for the purposes of inspecting ambulance services, with regard to compliance with policy and legislation.

**“Medical Rescue”** is defined as extrication of a person requiring, medical attention or treatment from a position of entrapment or any other situation which threatens the health of an individual or community.

**“Medical Rescue Vehicle”** means a vehicle, waterborne, airborne or land-based designed and adapted to convey specialised rescue personnel and equipment to release a patient from a medical rescue situation.

**“Medical Response Vehicle”** means an appropriately equipped non-patient carrying vehicle, designed and adapted to convey specialised medical equipment and to respond to a patient in an emergency care situation.

**“MEC”** means the Member of Executive Council responsible for Health in Gauteng.

**“Minister”** means the Minister of the National Department of Health

**“PALS”** means Paediatric Advanced Life Support

**“Responsible person”** means the person, or the nominee in the case of a company or an association of persons or governmental organization, who establishes, extends, conducts, maintains or renders an ambulance service.

**“Scope of Practice”** means regulations published by the Minister in terms of section 33(1) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act no. 56 of 1974) as amended, defining the scope of the profession of Emergency Care Personnel.

**“Training institution”** means a training institution accredited by the HPCSA: Emergency Care Personnel to offer approved emergency care training higher Education Act, and other relevant legislation.

“Act” means the Gauteng Ambulance Services Act, 2002 (Act No. 6 of 2002).

## 2. Composition of the Gauteng Ambulance Services Board

The Ambulance Services Board shall consist of the following:

- (a) two staff members from the Department of Health, knowledgeable about Ambulance Services, and registered with the HPCSA as a Paramedic or Medical Practitioner, to be appointed by the MEC and to serve throughout the term of their employment;
- (b) two elected representatives from the private sector providing Ambulance Services in the Province. At least one of the representatives shall be from a Small or Medium Enterprise;
- (c) one elected representative from each of the appointed agents of the Department. Such representative shall be registered with the HPCSA as a Paramedic;
- (d) one representative nominated by the Board for HealthCare Funders
- (e) one representative nominated by the Board of Emergency Care Personnel
- (f) one member from each Local Government elected by the community as a councillor responsible for Ambulance Services; and
- (g) the Head of the Gauteng Ambulance Services in an *ex officio* capacity throughout the term of his or her employment, with the Chairperson to be elected by the Board at its first meeting.

## 3. Term of office

The MEC:

- (a) shall appoint members of the Board to serve for a period of three years.
- (b) May re-appoint any person to serve on the Board.

## 4. Conditions of appointment

The following conditions will apply to any person nominated or appointed to the Ambulance Services Board:

- (a) Within ten days of receiving notice of his or her nomination to serve on the Board submit a written declaration to the MEC of any and all financial or other interests which are or could be related with such

appointment, which declaration shall include relevant information about any conviction for a Schedule 1 offence in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act No. 51 of 1977); and

- (b) A person will not be considered for the appointment as a member of the Board where he or she fails to submit the declaration required in terms of section (a).
- (c) The MEC shall terminate the appointment of a member of the Board who fails to advise the MEC timeously of any change of financial or other interests which might affect the ability of such member to consider any matter objectively.
- (d) Any declaration submitted shall be for the sole purpose of determining whether such financial or other possible conflict of interest may preclude the appointment or continuing in office of the nominee or appointee as a member of the Board,
- (e) The MEC shall ensure that any declaration submitted is confidential in nature.
- (f) no member of the Board may use his or her appointment as a member of the Board to promote any financial or other interest of any person;
- (g) where a member of the Board or a member of his or her family or a business associate has a current or potential financial or other conflict of interest, such member must timeously excuse himself or herself from any proceedings where such conflict of interest could arise;
- (h) Any member of the Board who fails to give truthful answers or provide the full declaration of financial or other possible conflicts of interest, or who fails to excuse himself or herself from proceedings where a conflict of interest exists, shall be –
  - (i) guilty of an offence;
  - (ii) liable to termination as a member of the Board; and
  - (iii) liable to a maximum fine of R30, 000.00 or to be imprisoned for a period not exceeding three years or to both such fine and imprisonment;
- (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of the above, the MEC may terminate the appointment of a member of the Board with immediate effect if such member:
  - (i) is suffering from an infirmity of mind or body which prevents him or her from properly discharging his or her duties as a member of the Board;



- (ii) has engaged in conduct, which in the opinion of the MEC, brings or could bring the Department or the activities of the Board into disrepute or threatens the integrity of the Board;
  - (iii) fails to carry out duties and functions of the Board to the best of his or her ability;
  - (iv) has been absent from more than two consecutive meetings of the Board without reasonable explanation to the MEC;
- (j) A member of the Board may, at any time and upon not less than thirty days written notice, resign as a member of the Board;

### **5. Meeting of the Gauteng Ambulance Services Board**

- (a) The chairperson of the Board shall be responsible for convening meeting.
- (b) The MEC shall prescribe the rules of the Board.
- (c) The Board shall amongst its members elect a deputy chairperson who shall preside at the meetings in the absence of the chairperson.
- (d) The MEC shall determine the frequency of meetings.
- (e) A member of Board who is not in full – time employ of the state, shall be paid out of moneys appropriated for this purpose by the Provincial Legislature, his or her reasonable subsistence and traveling expenses or allowance when attending a meeting of the Board, as the case may be.
- (f) Officers on the establishment of the Department shall perform the administrative functions of the Board and its committees.

### **6. Accreditation, Registration and Licensing**

- (a) An ambulance service shall not be registered as such, and no license shall be issued in respect thereof, unless the following has been complied with:
  - (i) the vehicles, equipment and staff comply with the minimum requirements as per category of care specified in Schedule A.
  - (ii) the vehicle is road-worthy and has been modified, adapted and
  - (iii) configured according to the minimum category of emergency care that will be provided by the unit as specified in Schedule A.

- (ii) all relevant legal requirements have been complied with.
- (iii) proof of adequate liability insurance cover must be available for the said ambulance service.
- (iv) *In the case of Air Ambulance Services and Ambulance Services performing Intensive Care Transfers*, shall have contracted to it an appropriately qualified and registered medical practitioner, for the purpose of clinical consultancy.
- (v) The person in charge of operations of an ambulance service shall be registered with the HPCSA as a Paramedic or higher.

(b) The process of registration of an Ambulance Service shall include;

- (i) an application to be submitted to the Department on the prescribed form. A needs assessment to consist of the following;
  - (a) the expected call volumes to be serviced per month, and
  - (b) an evaluation of other registered ambulance services within the operational area of the service requesting registration.
- (ii) an inspection to be performed by the Inspection Officer;
- (iii) issue of a license, specific to level of service provision, by the Department.
- (iv) the display of the license as proof of registration by the successful applicant;
- (v) For purposes of registration, Ambulance services shall pay a license fee or a renewal fee as prescribed by the MEC form time to time by Proclamation in the gazette.

©. An application for renewal of such license shall be made not less than 60 days before the date of expiry.

(d). The process of renewal of the license of an Ambulance Service shall include;

- (i) an application to be submitted on the prescribed application form to the Department.

- (ii) the display of the license as proof of registration by the successful applicant;

### **7. Inspection**

For purpose of Inspection of an Ambulance Service:

- (a) The MEC shall appoint inspectors who will undertake inspections of ambulance services applying for accreditation.
- (b) The inspection shall take place within one month of a valid application being received.
- (c) The respective inspection form will be duly completed and a copy provided to the responsible person of the said service.
- (d) No person shall in any way obstruct any inspecting officer carrying out his inspection or refuse to furnish to the best of his knowledge any information requested by such officer or to show any apparatus or vehicle.
- (e) A service shall be inspected annually and from time to time as the MEC reasonably deems it necessary.
- (f) The MEC may, at any time, direct an Inspecting Officer to review the medical care standards and protocols, and clinical care compliance data.

### **8. Change of Ownership**

- (a) Change of ownership of an ambulance service shall require a new application and a new license issued in compliance with the requirements of these regulations.
- (b) Any person may apply to the MEC in terms of the regulations for change of ownership of an ambulance service at a fee prescribed by the MEC.

### **9. Cancellation of registration**

The MEC may cancel the license if:

- (a) The proprietor; fails to comply with the prescribed conditions and requirements or is found guilty of an offence in terms of the provisions of these regulations.
- (b) She/he deems it necessary in the best interests of the public.

The MEC shall give six weeks notice in writing to the owner in the event of cancellation of the license in terms of these regulations. Whenever the MEC cancels a license in terms of these regulation, he shall give notice in writing to

the proprietor that he is so canceling the certificate or token of registration and that the Ambulance Service in respect of which it was issued shall cease to operate on or before a date specified in such notice.

#### **10. Display of license of registration of Ambulance services**

The holder of a license shall:

- a) display or cause to be displayed it in a conspicuous place on the premises to which such certificate relates.
- b) display vehicle license token in a conspicuous place on the vehicle to which such vehicle license relates.

#### **11. Management of ambulance service**

(a) For purpose of rendering ambulance services, the service shall consist of at least the following;

- (i) an ambulance
- (ii) a two-way communications system
- (iii) an Ambulance Service operational Manager
- (iv) a consulting medical practitioner
- (v) appropriate ambulance service personnel
- (vi) a standard patient data collection system as in Schedule A

(b) The owner of an ambulance service shall -

- (i) Convey patients in compliance the number prescribed in the license.
- (ii) not permit the treatment or conveyance of an ill or injured person without his/her informed consent.
- (ii) ensure that ambulance services personnel always transport patients to the closest appropriate medical facility. If the patient, the patient's medical practitioner or relative disagrees with the services' destination recommendation, that services' consulting medical practitioner and/or responsible person shall be consulted immediately for final arbitration of the patient's receiving facility destination.

## 12. Registration

- (a) Registration ambulance services may be registered to provide services at the level of;
- (i) basic life support and/or,
  - (ii) intermediate life support and/or,
  - (iii) advanced life support. *And /or*
  - (iv) *Air ambulance / aeromedical and or*
  - (v) *Intensive Care Transport*
  - (vi) *Waterborne ambulance*
- (b) Where an ambulance service requires to provide medical rescue services it shall ensure that it has appropriate trained in accordance with HPCSA be in possession of the appropriate rescue equipment.
- (c) Where an organisation, which is not an ambulance service, wishes to offer rescue that could involve patients, such organisation shall ensure that at least one member of the rescue team holds a minimum registration of ambulance emergency assistant. Such ambulance emergency assistant does not necessarily need to be a member of the organisation, and can be provided by association with other organisations.
- (d) Operators of Air Ambulance services must also comply with other relevant Civil Aviation legislation.
- (e) An ambulance service shall be exempted from Toll Road fees where such a service has no alternative but to pass through a Toll gate in order to provide emergency care to a person.
- (f) These regulations only apply to an ambulance service responding to incidents within the borders of the Province of Gauteng.

## 13. Short title

These regulations are called the Gauteng Ambulance Services Regulations, 2003

**SCHEDULE A : EQUIPMENT**

DESCRIPTION	AMBULANCE						RESPONSE VEHICLE	
	BASIC LIFE SUPPORT		INTERMEDIATE LIFE SUPPORT		ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT		ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT	
	MINIMUM	RECOMMENDED	MINIMUM	RECOMMENDED	MINIMUM	RECOMMENDED	MINIMUM	RECOMMENDED
<b>Airway and Breathing</b>								
Oxygen delivery device (portable or fixed) capable of 15 L/min for 30 minutes	1	2	1	2	1	2	0	0
Oxygen delivery device portable capable of 15L/min for 15 minutes	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	0
Bag valve mask Resuscitator Adult	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Bag valve mask Resuscitator Paediatric	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Suction Device (Manual or Battery)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Laryngoscope with blades	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Magill forceps Adult	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Magill forceps Paediatric	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cricothyrotomy set	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Oxygen mask, Minimum 40%	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	4
Nebulizer mask	4	6	4	6	4	6	4	4
Nebulizer T piece	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Endotracheal tubes 3.0 mm	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
Endotracheal tubes 5.0mm	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
Endotracheal tubes 7.0mm	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
Endotracheal tubes 8.0mm	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
ET stylet / introducers	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	3
ET Tube fixation tape or device	0	0	0	0	3	6	3	6
Oropharyngeal Airways 1	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4
Oropharyngeal Airways 2	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4
Oropharyngeal Airways 3	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4
Oropharyngeal Airways 4	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4
Suction Catheter FG 5-10	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4
Suction Catheter FG 12-16	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4
Yankauer Suction Catheter	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4

<b>Circulation</b>								
ECG electrodes	0	0	6	30	6	30	6	30
Pacing pads	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2
Defibrillation Gel	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ringers Lactate 1000ml	0	0	4	6	4	6	4	6
NaCl 0.9% 200ml	1	1	4	4	4	6	4	6
Synthetic Colloid Solution (eg Haemaccel)	0	0	2	3	2	4	2	4
10 drop / ml IV administration sets	0	0	4	6	4	6	4	6
60 drop / ml IV administration sets	0	0	4	4	4	6	4	6
15 or 20 drop / ml IV administration sets	0	0	1	2	2	4	2	4
5ml Syringe	2	2	2	2	3	6	3	6
20ml Syringe	0	0	3	4	3	6	3	6
50ml Syringe	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	4
21G Injection Needle	2	2	2	2	6	6	6	6
18G injection needles	0	0	0	0	6	6	6	6
14 G IV Cannulas	0	0	4	6	4	6	4	6
16 G IV Cannulas	0	0	4	6	4	6	4	6
18 G IV Cannulas	0	0	4	6	4	6	4	6
20 G IV Cannulas	0	0	4	6	4	6	4	6
22 G IV Cannulas	0	0	4	6	4	6	4	6
Transparent adhesive dressings for IV site	0	0	4	6	4	6	4	6
<b>Monitoring, Defibrillation and Instruments</b>								
Glucometer	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Blood Glucose Testing Strips	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Stethoscope	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Artery forcep	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Scissors	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sphigmomanometer	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
ECG Monitor & defibrillator	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
External Cardiac Pacemaker	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Pulse Oximeter	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scalpel blades	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2
Pupil torch	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Clinical Thermometer	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1







<b>Medication</b>								
Adenosine	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Adrenaline 1mg	0	0	0	0	10	50	10	50
Amiodorone 150mg per 5 ml	0	0	0	0	3	5	3	5
Aspirin 300mg	0	0	6	6	12	24	24	12
Atropine 1mg	0	0	0	0	5	20	5	20
Beta 2 Stimulant nebulizing solution	4	4	4	4	3	10	3	10
Calcium Gluconate (or Chloride) 10% 10ml	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	5
Dextrose 50% 20 ml	0	0	3	5	5	10	5	10
Diazepam 10mg	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	5
Flumazenil 0.5mg	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Glucose powder or gel	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Hydrocortisone	0	0	0	0	2	5	2	5
Ipratropium bromide nebulizing solution	0	0	0	0	3	10	3	10
Lasix 20mg per 2ml	0	0	0	0	5	10	5	10
Lignocaine 2% 5ml IV	0	0	0	0	5	10	5	10
Lignocaine spray	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Midazolam 15mg/3ml	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	5
Morphine 15mg/ml	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	5
Naloxone	0	0	0	0	4	6	4	6
Nitroglycerine tablets or spray	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Sodium Bicarbonate 8.5% / 50 ml	0	0	0	0	2	6	2	6
Water for injection 10ml	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	10

**SCHEDULE A:  
MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES:**

The following minimum standards of ambulance services incorporate the vehicle, the minimum equipment at the various category levels and the personnel qualifications at the various category and functional levels:

- (a) Basic life support
- (b) Intermediate life support
- (c) Advanced life support
- (d) Advanced Life Support Response vehicle

**VEHICLE SPECIFICATIONS**

**Vehicle type: Ambulance**

1. The vehicle shall be modified, adapted and configured as an ambulance, enabling accommodation of at least one stretcher patient.
2. The vehicle shall be registered as an "Ambulance" with the relevant authorities according to existing legislation.
3. The vehicle shall be clearly marked as an "Ambulance" on the front, sides and rear.
4. Red warning lights and a siren as specified in the relevant legislation must be fitted to the registered ambulance.
5. The vehicle shall be fitted with radio or telephonic communications so as to provide continuous communication with the ambulance control room.

**Vehicle type: Advanced Life Support Response Vehicle**

1. The vehicle shall be registered as a "Rescue Vehicle" with the relevant authorities according to existing legislation.
2. The vehicle shall be clearly marked as an "ALS Response Vehicle" on the front, sides and rear.
3. Red warning lights and a siren as specified in the relevant legislation must be fitted to the vehicle.
4. The vehicle shall be fitted with radio or telephonic communications so as to provide continuous communication with the ambulance control room.

## **PERSONNEL**

### **1. BASIC LIFE SUPPORT SERVICE**

This level of care involves the transportation of patients who may require medical assistance up to and including Basic Ambulance Assistant level.

Two persons minimum, shall staff the Basic Life Support ambulance, both of whom shall be registered as Basic Ambulance Assistants, and the driver of the vehicle to have an appropriate driver's licence and Professional Drivers Permit.

The ambulance crew should be dressed in appropriate protective clothing.

### **2. INTERMEDIATE LIFE SUPPORT SERVICE**

This level of patient transfer and treatment refers to an ill or injured patient requiring limited invasive medical intervention and intermediate life support.

Two persons minimum shall staff the Intermediate Life Support Ambulance, one of whom shall have an appropriate validated drivers licence and Professional Drivers Permit. The patient attendant shall be registered as an Ambulance Emergency Assistant and be assisted by a minimum of a Basic Ambulance Assistant.

The staff should be dressed in appropriate protective clothing.

### **3. ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SERVICE**

This level of patient transfer and treatment refers to a seriously ill or injured patient requiring invasive medical intervention and continuous advanced life support.

Two persons minimum shall staff the Advanced Life Support Ambulance. The driver, besides having a valid and appropriate Driver's Licence for the specific type of vehicle being manned, shall also be registered as a Basic Ambulance Assistant. The patient attendant shall be registered as a Paramedic or Medical Practitioner. It is recommended that the ALS patient attendant be assisted by a minimum of an Ambulance Emergency Assistant.

The staff should be dressed in appropriate protective clothing.

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