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Section: 8-20

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## ***Protocol Deviation***

- I. It is acknowledged that there are situations in which deviation from the protocols, policies and procedures may be needed in the interest of patient care.
  - A. In those situations, EMS personnel should request permission for deviation from on-line medical direction whenever possible.
  - B. Unavailability of on-line medical direction and the immediacy of patient care needs may, in very rare instances, prohibit such requests, but those situations should occur rarely.
- II. All instances of protocol deviation must be documented in the EMS patient care record, noting the deviation which occurred and the reason for that deviation.
- III. All deviations performed without online medical control approval must be reported to the MCA with 24 hours.
- IV. All reported deviations will be reviewed within the MCA Professional Standard Review Organization.