



City of Racine Police Department  
**Policy and Procedure**

**Number: 905**

Subject: <b>Prisoners Requiring Medical Attention</b>		
Date Issued: <b>8-29-80</b>	Effective Date: <b>04-08-11</b>	Revision Number: <b>4</b>

**POLICY:**

The Racine Police Department has established a procedure to ensure that all persons arrested by its' members, will receive prompt medical treatment for any and all injuries or illnesses while in police custody. Medical treatment shall be afforded to them and documentation about the treatment and circumstances will be completed in accordance with Department procedures. The members must recognize that the person receiving medical attention is both a patient and prisoner, and is to be treated as such. Close cooperation between police and hospital personnel is necessary to ensure both the safety and security of the prisoner.

**PROCEDURE:**

When an arrest is made and the prisoner requires or requests emergency medical treatment:

**MEMBER:**

1. Notify Communications of the injury or illness and:
  - a. Request a Fire Department Rescue Unit, if necessary.
  - b. If it is more appropriate for police to transport than a rescue unit due to specific circumstances (violent prisoner with only a claim of injury/illness, etc.) then advise Communications of the decision.
2. Secure and guard the prisoner keeping in mind the injury or complaint of illness.
  - a. Handcuff the prisoner, ensuring that the restraint system used doesn't affect the injury or illness.
  - b. Conduct a search of the prisoner per Department procedure.
    - 1) Ensure same sex searches occur, unless unavoidable due to reasonable issues of manpower or circumstances.
    - 2) Complete a Property Receipt (PP122) for any confiscated items.
  - c. Accompany the prisoner to the hospital.
3. Remain with the prisoner.
  - a. In those instances where handcuffs cannot be used or need to be removed due to treatment requirements request that the prisoner be moved to a secure area or make sure all escape routes are sealed.
  - b. If asked to leave the treatment room for medical reasons remain outside the treatment room and maintain visual contact if possible.
4. Prior to the hospital releasing the prisoner:
  - a. Review the "release" documents and ensure that any instructions presented to you verbally are also written on the "release" documents.
    - 1) Ensure that the written instructions are clearly written and understandable so that the personnel at the LEC can understand them, once the prisoner is turned over to them.
    - 2) Ensure that all special instructions that pertain to treatment, observation requirements, and medications are clearly written down on the "release" documents.
    - 3) Ensure that your agency is physically "in the position" to carry out the instructions that are written on the "release" documents.
  - b. Should it become necessary to refuse to accept the release of a patient/prisoner into your care, review the circumstances with a supervisor.
  - c. Notify Communications.
  - d. Obtain any medical papers from the hospital staff.
5. Transfer the prisoner to the LEC.
6. Transfer custody of the prisoner.
  - a. Notify the jail intake officer of any medical conditions requiring special attention.

- b. Transfer all medical papers (including those with instructions covering observation requirements, and the issuance of medications) and medications to the jail intake officer.
7. Prepare a Supplementary Report (PP95A) on each prisoner who received medical treatment (or claims injury and refuses treatment), detailing the incident and all action(s) taken.

- COMMUNICATIONS:**
1. Dispatch a Fire Department Rescue Unit if requested.
  2. Dispatch a supervisor to the location of the incident or to the hospital.
  3. Notify the shift commander.

- SUPERVISOR:**
1. Respond to the location of the incident or the hospital, taking charge and directing members as needed.
  2. When hospital personnel prepare to release the prisoner back to the member of the Department:
    - a. Review the medical release documents with the member to ensure that they contain all of the required information.
    - b. Ensure that the instructions are clear and understandable, and that the Department is in the position to carry out the instructions completely.
  3. Do not let the member take control of the patient/prisoner if the documents (or the conditions in the documents) are not within the standards set by procedure.
  4. Keep the Shift Commander informed of the circumstances.
  5. Check all paperwork for completeness and accuracy and forward as required by Procedure #200.

- SHIFT COMMANDER:**
1. Ensure the assigned supervisor keeps you informed.
  2. Monitor the situation to ensure that any claims of Department involvement in the causing of the injury are addressed and investigated promptly.
  3. Check all paperwork forwarded to you for review, and then distribute it as appropriate.

**RELATED PROCEDURE:**      [901 – Arrest and Incarceration](#)  
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