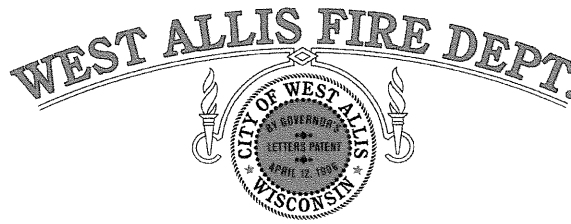




STEVEN J. HOOK
CHIEF



CITY of WEST ALLIS
FIRE DEPARTMENT

To: Mayor Devine and Members of the Common Council
From: Steven Hook, Fire Chief
Date: January 12, 2009
Re: Advanced Life Support billing rate modifications

In accordance with the agreement between the City of West Allis (and various other Milwaukee County municipalities) and Milwaukee County for the provision of paramedic services, the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs (MCAFC) has reviewed the billing rates for advanced life support (paramedic) treatment and transport. The MCAFC provided suggestions for billing rate modifications to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council (ICC) for their consideration. On December 8, 2009, the ICC voted to adopt the rate changes.

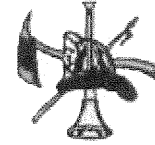
According to our agreement with Milwaukee County, the rates must now be adopted by each municipality to assure that uniform rates are charged for services. Therefore, I have provided the rates for your consideration and adoption. Once the rates are approved, I will make them available to our ambulance billing agent, LifeQuest Services.

Attached to this document, please find a resolution passed by the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs that provides suggested billing rates for Milwaukee County fire-based paramedic services. In accordance with the current paramedic contract, section 2.6, "Finances", and in keeping with our previously established practice, the MCAFC annually evaluates billing rates and compares them with Medicare reimbursements, insurance payment history information, billing vendor advice and rates charged for similar services in other communities to provide suggested rates for paramedic service in Milwaukee County. Having received the ICC's approval, municipalities are be able to implement the rates as early as possible in 2009.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please contact me if I can help with any questions you may have.



Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs



Resolution

Proposed billing rates for fire based paramedic service in Milwaukee County

Whereas: Since January 1, 2007 Milwaukee County has not billed patients for paramedic services provided by fire departments operating under the contract for paramedic service within Milwaukee County, and

Whereas: Since January 1, 2007 each municipality or fire department that provides paramedic service in Milwaukee County has been responsible for billing for services rendered, and

Whereas: Provision of paramedic service within Milwaukee County is coordinated by Milwaukee County and is intended to be uniform throughout all areas of the County and for all persons requiring service, and

Whereas: The Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs has studied the billing rates used by Milwaukee County and comparable rates charged by other providers in Wisconsin and finds that adjustments to the current rates charged by Milwaukee are supported as reasonable and customary, and

Whereas: Residents within Milwaukee County provide financial support for a uniform high-quality paramedic service through County and local property taxes and non-residents do not directly provide similar financial support, and

Whereas: Costs are incurred by providers for paramedic assessment and/or treatment of patients who are not subsequently transported.

Therefore, let it be resolved by the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs that

- Each municipality or fire department providing paramedic services in Milwaukee County adopt uniform billing rates for paramedic service, and
- That the billing rates include a higher rate for services to persons who are not residents of Milwaukee County, and
- That a charge be assessed for patients who receive a paramedic assessment and/or treatment but who are subsequently not transported, and
- That billing rates be reviewed each year for appropriate adjustments to remain consistent with reasonable and customary charges for service, and

Representing Fire Chief's from:

Cudahy, Hales Corners, Franklin, Greendale, Greenfield, Milwaukee, Milwaukee County Airport, North Shore, Oak Creek, South Milwaukee, St. Francis, Wauwatosa, West Allis, Wisconsin Air National Guard

- That the recommended rates to be adopted effective January 1, 2009 are listed in the following table:

Item	MCAFC Suggested Rates (Before January 1, 2009)	MCAFC Suggested Rates (As of January 1, 2009)
Paramedic service and/or treatment without transport (Resident)	\$75.00	\$105.00
Paramedic service and/or treatment without transport (Non-resident)	\$125.00	\$150.00
Paramedic service with transport Level -ALS-1 (Resident)	\$585.00	\$625.00
Paramedic service with transport Level -ALS-2 (Resident)	\$635.00	\$675.00
Paramedic service with transport Level -ALS-1 (Non-resident)	\$635.00	\$675.00
Paramedic service with transport Level -ALS-2 (Non-resident)	\$685.00	\$725.00
Paramedic service and invasive treatment without transport (Resident)	\$350.00	\$0.00*
Paramedic service and invasive treatment without transport (Non-resident)	\$380.00	\$0.00*
Defibrillation	\$85.00	\$85.00
IV and supplies	\$50.00	\$50.00
Intubation	\$65.00	\$65.00
ALS supplies	\$70.00	\$70.00
Oxygen and supplies	\$75.00	\$75.00
Mileage (rate per loaded mile)	\$12.00	\$14.00
EKG	\$85.00	\$85.00
Drugs, Group-1 (Albuterol, Amioderone (30 Mg), Atropine, Benadryl, Heparin Sodium by IV, Lasix, Lidocaine, Ativan, Versed, Sodium Chloride, Solmedrol (up to 40 MG), Terbutaline, Diazepam, Dextrose 50%, Nitro Spray SL, Normal Saline (capped), D50, D5W)	\$25.00	\$25.00
Drugs, Group-2 (Calcium Chloride, Epinephrine (IM or IV, not by Epi-pen), Dopamine, Lidocaine, Sodium Bicarbonate)	\$30.00	\$30.00
Drugs, Group-3 (Morphine, Narcan, Normal Saline)	\$40.00	\$40.00
Epinephrine by Epi-pen	\$85.00	\$85.00
Adenosine	\$80.00	\$80.00
Glucagon, up to 1 Mg	\$80.00	\$80.00
Solmedrol, 41-125 Mg	\$50.00	\$50.00
E-Z IO	\$100.00	\$110.00

* "Invasive treatment without transport" fees were discontinued in lieu of an agency's ability to charge for service and/or treatment without transport along with oxygen, drugs, EKG, and other items delivered at the scene.

Resolution as adopted by the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs at the regularly scheduled meeting of October 16, 2008, and signed November 4, 2008.

By:


Jay Behling, President


Russ Spahn, Vice President
BRIAN M. SATULA