



**NORTHWEST
COMMUNITY
EMERGENCY
MEDICAL
SERVICES
SYSTEM**

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Date: April 29, 2016

System Memo: # 356

To: All Chiefs; Provider EMSCs, Hospital EMSCs/Educators

From: John M. Ortinu, MD, FACEP
EMS Medical Director

RE: **Advanced Airway Quality Management Tool**

For the past year, we've been on a mission to discover how we are doing with respect to advanced airway management; to improve first pass success rates; and maintain competency in skills that are rarely performed by a majority of our System paramedics.

We've had great discussions at multiple meetings with EMS Coordinators (provider and hospital) and the PBPI Committee and have gotten good insights from them.

Current data retrieved from past PCRs show that we have intubation success rates that vary from agency to agency, but together fall below national benchmarks and/or best practice models. What we do not yet know is whether that data accurately reflects our real practice.

Before we make any changes to System scopes of practice, the tools that are used, or our educational strategies, we need accurate and reliable data.

THAT's WHERE YOU COME IN!

What we are asking	Complete the attached form (one per patient) EVERY TIME an advanced airway (ETI, King or Cric) is attempted (successful or not)
Where are the forms located?	Printed forms will be in each System hospital's EMS chart room and can also be placed on each ALS vehicle (ambulance and MedEngine) so they are readily available. Electronic forms may be included in an agency's computer files accessible to paramedics during a call.
Where should the forms be submitted?	If patient is transported to a System hospital: Submit completed forms to that hospital's EMSC for follow up. If patient is NOT transported or not transported to a System hospital: forward completed forms to Susan Wood in the NWC EMSS offices: Scan and e-mail: swood@nch.org OR Fax: 847-618-4489 OR drop them off at the NWC EMSS Offices
How long are we collecting data?	May 1 to July 31, 2016
Outcome goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accurately assess our current state of advanced airway performance.• Interpret data to determine if there is a need for enhancing or changing current practice.• Provide the best possible care for our patients.• Provide the best possible education and ongoing skill maintenance strategies for our practitioners.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Wood at swood@nch.org .