



AHTA Medical Services Policy and Guidelines

Due to the high-risk nature of the sport of Eventing it is imperative that appropriate life saving medical services are on-site during each event to provide the best level of services to individual competitors. Members of the Alberta Horse Trials Association (the AHTA) have made it clear safety should be a top priority. In order to ensure our members get the best possible care if a medical emergency does happen, the AHTA has implemented a Medical Services Policy for all sanctioned competitions.

Policy

The recommended standard for a medical services provider at EC sanctioned Alberta Eventing competitions is hiring an Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance to be on-site which includes the provision of at least one Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP).

The minimum standard for a medical services provider at EC sanctioned Alberta Eventing competitions is hiring a Basic Life Support Ambulance (BLS) to be on-site which includes the provision of at least one Primary Care Paramedic (PCP). In situations where this is not possible, hiring a PCP with a Mobile Treatment Centre (MTC) stocked with appropriate equipment is acceptable.

The AHTA does not support hiring an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) or First Responder on their own as they are not sufficiently trained or equipped to provide life saving medical services in the event of an accident. EMR invoices will not be reimbursed by AHTA under the medical support funding policy.

In order to receive funding a detailed invoice must be received outlining the type of medical provider, designation and hours worked. Hours worked should equal the duration of the event requiring coverage. This would include but not limited to being physically on-site, easily visible and stationed in a way that they are ready to respond to any emergency at any time.

Medical service providers with experience with horse-related events are preferred and will be better able to provide support.

Emergency Response Information:

AHTA has determined that eventing is a high-risk sport. The majority of the event locations in Alberta are in isolated areas. Therefore, the travel time to appropriate Alberta Trauma Services is more than 30 minutes away, and in some cases more than 1 hour away.

Current Alberta Trauma Services Hospitals:

Zone	Event	Hospital	Approx Travel Time
Calgary	Cochrane	Foothills Medical Centre Alberta Children's Hospital	28 Minutes



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Central	Alhambra ----- Prentice Creek	Red Deer Regional Hospital	12 Minutes ----- 1 hour 6 mins
Edmonton (North)	Mind's Eye	Royal Alexandra Hospital Stollery Children's Hospital	43 Minutes ----- 40 Minutes
Edmonton (South)	Beaumont	University of Alberta Hospital Stollery Children's Hospital	28 Minutes ----- 25 Minutes
North	Grande Prairie	Grande Prairie Regional Hospital	20 Minutes

***Note:** It is important to keep the travel time in mind when procuring a Medical Service Provider. There will be additional time for the ambulance to respond to the scene and then transport to a Trauma Service Hospital.

Medical Control Protocols by Service Provider

In order to ensure that the onsite medical provider can effectively manage equestrian related incidents that may occur we recommend that event organizers discuss various scenarios with the service provider. Once they are aware of the scenarios, they would know which Medical Control Protocol would apply for each scenario. This would ensure they are prepared for those types of incidents.

The following scenarios may occur at a 3 Day Event:

- Non-riding activities
- Fall off horse
- Horse falls on individual
- Individual hits stationary object (jump, tree, fence, etc)
- Individual run over by horse
- Individual dragged by horse

Resulting in the following injuries:

- Long Bone Fractures



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- Spinal Injuries
- Internal Trauma
- Head Related Injuries (Concussions)
- Surface contusions
- Soft Tissue Injuries

Type of Participants

- Youth, Younger Adults, Middle Age Adults, and Older Adults
- All Genders

Resource:

1. [Concussion FAQs](#)
2. [Alberta Trauma Services](#)
3. [Medical Control Protocols Here](#)

Any questions or concerns with this policy please reach out to ahtapresident@gmail.com.