

<b>Policy:</b> AMR Ride Along Policy	<b>Policy Number:</b> 125
<b>Department:</b> Ethics & Compliance	<b>Date Effective:</b> May 5, 2006
	<b>Date Revised:</b>

**SCOPE:**

All full-time, part-time and per diem AMR employees and contracted employees for AMR.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to outline which individuals may ride in an AMR vehicle (ambulance or supervisors vehicle) to ensure compliance with the AMR policies pertaining to the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

**POLICY:**

All AMR employees must adhere to the HIPAA Privacy Rule as it relates to permitted uses and/or disclosures of protected health information (PHI) of the patients we treat and/or transport. This policy was created to comply with our policies pertaining to the HIPAA Privacy Rule. Therefore, this policy prohibits anyone from riding in an AMR ambulance, Supervisors vehicle or any other company owned vehicle where the possibility of disclosing a patients PHI exists without the patients' prior written authorization. This includes, but is not limited to, the following groups:

- Any member of the print or broadcast media;
- Explorer Scouts or any other volunteer group that is not directly involved in the treatment of the patient;
- AMR family members (unless as a family member of a patient) ;
- Local politicians, government officials and/or council members who do not have direct health oversight or enforcement authority over AMR;
- The general public; and
- Any other person who is not directly involved in the treatment or payment of the patient, or the healthcare operations of AMR.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

The Ethics & Compliance Department has determined the following exceptions to the Ride Along Policy apply. This is an all-inclusive list. Any agency/individual who is not specifically listed below as an exception to this policy must receive prior written approval from the AMR Privacy Officer or Chief Compliance Officer prior to being allowed to ride. In addition, any person or agency permitted to ride in an AMR ambulance or other company owned vehicle must fully comply with the requirements set forth in all applicable Safety Risk or Clinical Education Services policies.

- AMR employees with a legitimate business reason to ride. This includes both clinical and non-clinical employees;
- EMT and Paramedic students who are currently enrolled in a formal EMS school as it relates to the schools curriculum;
- Physicians, nurses and other clinical personnel whose job function includes the continuation of patient care;
- Health oversight agency personnel in performing specific oversight/enforcement activities; and
- Family members of patients where permitted and consistent with other published AMR Safety Risk policies.

## **POLICY REVIEW**

The Ethics & Compliance Department will review and update this Policy in the normal course of its review of the Corporate Ethics & Compliance HIPAA Program.