**2.10 Patient Transport Devices Policy**

**Purpose:** To set guidelines for patient transport devices

**Policy:** Stretchers and/or patient litters shall not be carried on, or within, any non-emergency medical transportation vehicle. There shall be a four-point forward facing wheelchair restraint system to secure and immobilize each occupied wheelchair transported in the vehicle.

Vehicles shall be equipped only with forward-facing wheelchair systems and patient seats.

The wheelchair restraint system shall secure and immobilize the frame of the wheelchair in a crashworthy manner and so that movement of the occupied wheelchair does not exceed one inch in any direction. The restraint system shall not be attached to the wheels of the wheelchair. Each wheelchair shall have a patient seatbelt that secures the patient into the wheelchair in a configuration similar to an automotive safety belt. Velcro [FN®]-type closures shall not be utilized. The seatbelt shall attach only to the wheelchair, not to the vehicle, and shall not be part of the wheelchair restraint system. The seatbelt shall be properly secured on the patient whenever the patient is in the wheelchair and under the care of the crewmembers, including moving the patient in and out of the vehicle, and transferring the patient to his or her destination.