

EMS In-service September 2009

Who signs a refusal?

- Athlete at high school football practice collapses but is alert and oriented when EMS arrives
- Assessment normal
- Athlete does not want to go to hospital
- What do you do?

POA v. Guardianship

- What is the difference legally?
- How can it impact your interaction with your patient?

Response Code: COLD

Depositions

- Definition: Testimony taken down in writing under oath; out of court testimony, under oath and recorded by an authorized individual for later use in court
- Type of “discovery” to gather the facts

How can depositions be used?

- Any statements given can be used against you the another party at trial
- If the testimony is different, deposition testimony can be used to cross examine and damage credibility
- Deposition testimony can sometimes be used if you are lawfully unavailable during the trial
- Aids lawyers in assessing witnesses and whether they want to go to trial

Deposition Tips

- ALWAYS tell the truth (NO EXCEPTION)
- Dress appropriately, for you work clothes are fine
- Make sure you are sure what is being asked, OK to clarify
- Never guess at an answer. OK to say, “I don’t remember.”
- OK take time to think about response

Deposition Tips Cont.

- Thoroughly review document before answering
- Never say “never” or “always” (well almost never)
- Don’t argue with opposing counsel (I get to do that)
- OK to estimate sometimes but don’t speculate

Questions generally asked

- Name, address, where do you work
- How long, position
- Work history
- Education and training
- Working on a particular date?
- Recall a particular call?
- Who, what, where, how?
- Explain report