



DT: 11.14.2016

TO: ALL JOCO EMS System Providers

RE: St. Joseph Medical Center Neurosurgery Coverage

Effective immediately, St. Joseph Medical Center no longer has Neurosurgical consultation available for Emergency Department patients.

As a consequence, the EMS System shall not transport any patient to St. Joseph Medical Center who they believe to be having any intracranial process. High-risk patients who have signs and symptoms consistent with a CVA, intracranial hemorrhage, or altered mental status in a patient taking blood thinners (ex. altered patients with ground level falls on blood thinners) should **not** be transported to St. Joseph Medical Center until we are notified of their ability to provide neurosurgical coverage for these patients.

Please use on-line medical control if family or facility is requesting transport to St. Joseph Medical Center and you feel the patient may have an acute neurosurgical/neurological issue.

For any questions/concerns please do not hesitate to contact myself or Dr. Ruthstrom for further clarification.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan C. Jacobsen", written over a white background.

Ryan C. Jacobsen MD, EMT-P, FACEP
JOCO EMS System Medical Director