# Suffolk County AMPDS Dispatch Protocols

The following are the AMPDS dispatch protocols, which are used when dispatching ambulences on the county frequency 155.280. When MEDCOM dispatches an ambulance they use this system to let the crew know the nature of the emergency. For example, a patient with breathing problems and cardiac history would be dispatched as a "6 charlie 3 response" or a car accident with ejection would be a "29 delta 5 response". The response levels are Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta and Echo with Alpha being the lowest priority and Echo being the highest. An Omega response is a referral.

## 1. Abdominal Pains/Problems
- **C-1** - Males (older than 34)
- **C-2** - Females (older than 45)
- **C-3** - Not alert
- **C-4** - Females with fainting (ages 12 - 50)

## 2. Allergies/Hives/Red Reaction/Stings
- **A-1** - No difficulty breathing or swallowing
- **B-1** - Unknown symptoms (3rd party situation)
- **C-1** - Difficulty breathing or swallowing
- **D-1** - Severe respiration distress
- **D-2** - Not alert
- **D-3** - Condition worsening
- **E-1** - Ineffective Breathing

## 3. Animal Bites/Attacks
- **A-1** - Superficial or minor bites
- **A-2** - Spider or insect bites
- **B-1** - Peripheral bites with serious bleeding
- **B-2** - Unknown injuries (3rd party situation)
- **D-1** - Severe central bites
- **D-2** - Large carnivores
- **D-3** - Zoo animal
- **D-4** - Exotic animal
- **D-5** - Any snake
- **D-6** - Attacks or multiple animals

## 4. Assault/Rape
- **A-1** - Not dangerous injuries
- **A-2** - Non-recent injuries (> 6 hrs)
- **B-1** - Possibly dangerous injuries
- **B-2** - Serious hemorrhages
- **B-3** - Unknown injuries (3rd party situation)
- **D-1** - Multiple victims
- **D-2** - Dangerous injuries
- **D-3** - Not alert
- **D-4** - Abnormal breathing

## 5. Back Pain
- **A-1** - Non-traumatic back pain
- **A-2** - Non-recent traumatic back pain (> 6 hrs)
- **C-1** - Fainting (age > 50 and non-traumatic)
- **D-1** - Not alert

## 6. Breathing Problems
- **C-1** - Difficulty breathing
- **C-2** - Asthma
- **C-3** - Cardiac history
- **D-1** - Severe respiratory distress
- **D-2** - Not alert
- **D-3** - Sweat or changing colors
- **E-1** - Ineffective Breathing

## 7. Burns/Explosion
- **A-1** - Small burns
- **A-2** - Sunburn or minor burns (< hand size)
- **B-1** - Unknown extent (3rd party situation)
- **C-1** - Difficulty breathing
- **C-2** - Large burns
- **D-1** - Multiple victims
- **D-2** - Severe respiratory distress
- **D-3** - Not Alert
- **D-4** - Explosion

## 8. Carbon Monoxide/Inhalation/HazMat
- **B-1** - Alert and breathing normally
- **C-1** - Alert with abnormal breathing
- **D-1** - Multiple victims
- **D-2** - Not alert
- **D-3** - HazMat
- **D-4** - Unknown status (3rd party situation)
9. Cardiac/Respiratory Arrest
- B-1 - Obvious death situation (unquestionable)
- D-1 - Suspected cardiac arrest
- D-2 - Suspected respiratory arrest
- E-1 - Not Breathing At All
- E-2 - Breathing Uncertain (Agonal)
- E-3 - Hanging
- E-4 - Strangulation
- E-5 - Suffocation
- E-6 - Underwater

10. Chest pain
- A-1 - Normal breathing (age < 35)
- C-1 - Normal breathing (age > 35)
- C-2 - Abnormal breathing
- C-3 - Cocaine
- C-4 - Cardiac History
- D-1 - Severe respiratory distress
- D-2 - Not Alert
- D-3 - Sweaty or changing color

11. Choking
- A-1 - No longer choking (can talk or cry), is alert and breathing normally
- D-1 - Choking
- D-2 - Abnormal breathing
- D-3 - Not alert
- E-1 - Choking Verified/Ineffective Breathing

12. Convulsions/Seizures
- A-1 - Breathing now physically verified by caller
- B-1 - Age < 35 (breathing not verified)
- C-1 - Pregnancy
- C-2 - Trauma
- C-3 - Diabetic
- C-4 - Cardiac History
- D-1 - Continuous or multiple seizures
- D-2 - Age > 35 (breathing not verified)
- D-3 - Not breathing (verified)

13. Diabetic Problems
- A-1 - Conscious and alert
- C-1 - Conscious but not alert
- C-2 - Conscious with abnormal breathing
- D-1 - Unconscious

14. Drowning (near) / Diving Accident
- A-1 - Alert and breathing normally (no injuries and out of water)
- B-1 - Alert and breathing normally (injuries and/or in water)
- B-2 - Unknown status (3rd party sit.)
- C-1 - Alert with abnormal breathing
- D-1 - Unconscious
- D-2 - Not breathing or underwater
- D-3 - Not alert and/or abnormal breathing
- D-4 - Suspected neck injury
- D-5 - Diving or SCUBA accident

15. Electrocution
- C-1 - Alert and breathing normally
- D-1 - Unconscious
- D-2 - Not disconnected from power
- D-3 - Power not off/hazard present
- D-4 - Not alert
- D-5 - Abnormal breathing
- D-6 - Long fall (> 6 ft./2 m.)
- D-7 - Unknown status (3rd party situation)
- E-1 - Not Breathing/Ineffective Breathing

16. Eye problems / injuries
- A-1 - Moderate eye injury
- A-2 - Minor eye injury
- B-1 - Severe eye injuries
- D-1 - Not alert

17. Falls / Back injuries (traumatic)
- A-1 - Not dangerous injuries
- A-2 - Non-recent injuries (> 6 hrs.)
- B-1 - Possible dangerous injuries
- B-2 - Serious hemorrhage
- B-3 - Unknown injuries (3rd party situation)
- D-1 - Dangerous injuries
- D-2 - Long fall (> 6 ft./2 m.)
- D-3 - Not alert
- D-4 - Abnormal breathing
18. Headache
A-1 - Headache only (without prior symptoms)
C-1 - Not alert
C-2 - Numbness or paralysis
C-3 - Speech or movement problems
C-4 - Sudden onset of severe pain
C-5 - Recent head injuries (< 24 hrs.)

19. Heart Problems
A-1 - Heart rate < 130 (without prior symptoms)
B-1 - Unknown symptoms
C-1 - Not alert
C-2 - Cardiac History
C-3 - Heart rate >130 (without prior symptoms)
C-4 - Cocaine
D-1 - Firing of implanted defibrillator

20. Heat / cold exposure
A-1 - Alert (without prior symptoms)
B-1 - Change in skin color
B-2 - Unknown symptoms (3rd party situation)
C-1 - Cardiac History
D-1 - Not alert

21. Hemorrhage / lacerations
A-1 - Not dangerous hemorrhage
B-1 - Possibly dangerous hemorrhage
D-1 - Dangerous hemorrhage
D-2 - Not alert
D-3 - Severe respiratory distress

22. Industrial / machinery accidents
B-1 - Unknown illness or injuries (not caught in machinery)
D-1 - Multiple victims
D-2 - Trapped or caught in machinery (unknown injuries)
D-3 - Life status questionable

23. Overdose / ingestion / poisoning
A-1 - Concious and alert (age 1 though 11 years)
B-1 - Conscious and alert (age < 1 or > 12 years)
C-1 - Not alert (unable to talk)
C-2 - Abnormal breathing
C-3 - Antidepressants (tricylic)
C-4 - Cocaine
C-5 - Acid or lye (alkali)
C-6 - Violent
D-1 - Unconscious
D-2 - Severe respiratory distress

24. Pregnancy / childbirth / miscarriage
A-1 - 1st trimester bleeding or miscarriage
A-2 - Illness during pregnancy (without priority symptoms)
B-1 - Labor (delivery not imminent 2nd/3rd trimester)
B-2 - Unknown pregnancy problems (3rd party situation)
C-1 - 2nd trimester bleeding or miscarriage
D-1 - Baby born
D-2 - Baby's head visible (crowning)
D-3 - Imminent delivery (3rd trimester)
D-4 - 3rd trimester bleeding
D-5 - Breach presentation

25. Psychiatric emergency/suicide attempt
A-1 - Non-violent and non-suicidal (alert)
B-1 - Unknown symptoms (3rd party situation)
C-1 - Not alert
C-2 - Violent
C-3 - Suicidal (threatening)
D-1 - Hanging, strangulation, or suffocation
Suffolk County AMPDS Dispatch Protocols

26. Sick person (specific diagnosis)
- 2 Boils
- 3 Bumps
- 4 Can't Sleep
- 5 Can't Urinate (Without Abdominal Pain)
- 6 Catheter (in/out without hemhorraging)
- 7 Constipation
- 8 Cramps/Spasms (In Extremities)
- 9 Cut Off Ring Request
- 10 Deafness
- 11 Defecation
- 12 Earache
- 13 Enema
- 14 Gout
- 15 Hemorrhoids/piles
- 16 Hepatitis
- 17 Hiccups
- 18 Hungry
- 19 Nervous
- 20 Object Stuck (Nose,Ear,Vagina,Rectum,Penis)
- 21 Object Swallowed (w/o Difficulty Breathing or Swallowing)
- 22 Penis Problem/pain
- 23 rash/Skin Disorder (w/o difficulty breathing or swallowing)
- 24 Shore Throat (w/o difficulty breathing or swallowing)
- 25 Toothache
- 26 Transportation Only
- 27 Venereal Disease (STD)
- 28 Wound Infection (Focal or Surface)

A-1 - No priority symptoms (complaint cond. 2-28 no ident)
A-2 - Non-priority complaints
B-1 - Unknown symptoms (3rd party situation)
C-1 - Not alert
C-2 - Cardiac history (complaint cond 2-28 not ident)

27. Stab / gunshot wound
- A-1 - Non-recent single peripheral wound (> 6 hrs)
- B-1 - Known single peripheral wound
- B-2 - Non-recent single central wound (> 6 hrs)
- B-3 - Unknown situation (3rd party)
- D-1 - Central wounds
- D-2 - Multiple victims
- D-3 - Not alert
- D-4 - Multiple wounds

28. Stroke (CVA)
- A-1 - Alert breathing normally (numbness, speech or movement problems may be present)
- B-1 - Unknown situation (3rd party situation)
- C-1 - Not alert
- C-2 - Abnormal breathing

29. Traffic accidents
- A-1 - 1st party caller without dangerous injuries
- B-1 - Injuries
- B-2 - Unknown situation
- D-1 - Multiple victims
  - A - Aircraft
  - B - Bus
  - C - Subway/Metro
  - D - Rail
  - E - Watercraft
- D-2 - Auto-ped/motorcycle/bicycle
  - A - All-Terrain Vehicle
  - B - Vehicle vs. Bicycle/Motorcycle
  - C - Vehicle vs. Pedestrian
  - D - Ejection from Vehicle
  - E - Personal watercraft
  - F - Rollover
  - G - Vehicle over bridge
- D-3 - HazMat
- D-4 - Trapped victim
- D-5 - Ejected victim
- D-6 - Not alert
- D-7 - Severe respiratory distress

30. Traumatic injuries, specific
- A-1 - Not dangerous injuries
- A-2 - Non-recent injuries (> 6 hrs)
- B-1 - Possibly dangerous injuries
- B-2 - Serious hemorrhage
- D-1 - Dangerous injuries
- D-2 - Severe respiratory distress
- D-3 - Not alert
31. Unconscious / fainting (non-traumatic)
   A-1 - Single fainting episode and alert (age < 35)
   A-2 - Near fainting episode and alert (age < 35)
   C-1 - Single or near fainting episode and alert
   C-2 - Multiple fainting episodes
   C-3 - Females with abdominal pain (ages 12-50)
   C-4 - Conscious with abnormal breathing
   C-5 - Cardiac history
   D-1 - Unconcius (at end of interrogation)
   D-2 - Severe respiratory distress
   D-3 - Not alert
   E-1 - Ineffective Breathing

32. Unknown problem (man down)
   B-1 - Standing, sitting up, moving or talking
   B-2 - Medical alert notifications
   B-3 - Unknown situation (3rd party)
   D-1 - Life status questionable