



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GUIDELINES FOR USE OF THE ARKANSAS TRAUMA COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

A. What does the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) and the Arkansas Department of Information Systems (DIS) allow under the Guidelines for Use of the Arkansas Trauma Communications System?

Act 393 of 2009 gives ADH legislative authority to “contract with entities to provide command and communication networks.” The following are allowed under the Guidelines:

1. Only Arkansas-licensed, transporting ground and rotor wing air ambulances that are owned by EMS providers participating in the trauma system are allowed to have and utilize AWIN trauma mobile radios.
2. AWIN trauma mobile radios purchased by ADH are allowed to have the following programming:
 - a. Pre-approved trauma talk groups (1-6)
 - b. County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) interoperability talk groups
3. AWIN trauma mobile radios not purchased by ADH are allowed to have the following programming once they are approved by ADH to do so:
 - a. Pre-approved trauma talk groups (1-6)
 - b. County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) interoperability talk groups will require the EMS owner of that ambulance service to seek separate approvals from appropriate government agencies to obtain the OEM talk groups.
4. Basic Requirements for Trauma type radio (Ground and Air):
 - a. Must have a display
 - b. Must have 48 or more channel capability
 - c. Must be 700/800 MHz capable
 - d. Analog/P25 digital/Smartzone capable
 - e. Smartzone Systems Operations
 - f. Astro Digital Operation
 - g. Smartzone Omnlink multizone Operation
 - h. Astro 9600 Baud Trunking Operation
 - i. Enhanced Digital ID Display
5. Rotor Wing Air Ambulance Radio Requirements:
 - a. TDFM 9000 series is upgradable to P25 Phase II. (Uses APX radio)
 - b. Technisonic TDFM 7000, 7300 are both P25 Phase I compliant and will not upgrade to Phase II. (uses XTS5000 radio)
 - c. TDFM 6000 Series II (700/800) with the Type II modules is also acceptable, but is not Phase II upgradable.
 - d. TDFM 6000 Series I is not acceptable due to it only being an 800 only radio.
6. Only trauma-related calls may be coordinated with the ATCC. All major and moderate trauma patient transports from the scene (by AWIN trauma mobile radio), as well as all major, moderate, and minor hospital-to-hospital transfers (by telephone) of these patients, must be coordinated through the ATCC and follow all policy and procedures of the ATCC.

B. What does ADH and DIS not allow under the Guidelines for Use of the Arkansas Trauma Communications System?



In order for the trauma system to utilize AWIN, there are certain restrictions in place. These restrictions are necessary in order to ensure that AWIN is not overloaded and for required upgrades to occur. Therefore, the following are not allowed under the Guidelines:

1. Dispatching is prohibited. Only “scene runs” (i.e., transport of patients from the injury scene to the hospital) and hospital-to-hospital transfers are allowed to be coordinated through the ATCC.
2. AWIN portable (hand held) radios are not to be utilized in the trauma communications system.
3. AWIN trauma talk groups are not allowed in control stations within an EMS provider’s dispatch center.
4. AWIN trauma talk groups are currently not allowed in hospitals.
5. EMS providers may not add additional talk groups to the ADH trauma mobile radios.
6. Removing talk groups or changing the template in the ADH supplied AWIN trauma mobile radio is not allowed.
7. The AWIN trauma mobile radios are for trauma use only and may be used outside the trauma communications plan only during a disaster response (see below for further details) or OEM coordinated events.
8. The AWIN trauma mobile radios’ emergency function and scanning capability have been disabled and may therefore not be used.
9. Users are not allowed to monitor other talk groups. Unnecessary monitoring takes up space on the system and could potentially interfere with other users.

C. Are agencies allowed to use the AWIN trauma mobile radios for disaster response?

Yes. AWIN radios are programmed with MAC channels and interoperable channels to facilitate better disaster communications with EMS, fire, law enforcement, and emergency management officials. As always, the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management will assign a MAC channel for disaster operations. ADH has access to the MAC talk groups and will request an EMS MAC talk group when needed.

Trauma talk groups 3-6 are available for assignment by the ATCC to EMS agencies when needed to coordinate communications for multi-agency response. This involves:

1. An incident that overwhelms an ambulance, yet does not require MCI level activation;
2. for ground to air communications.

D. Normal Communications Procedure

I. Field to hospital trauma response:

1. EMS unit is dispatched to scene by 911 or their dispatch center.
2. EMS determines if it is a Major or Moderate trauma case as defined by the Arkansas Field Triage Guidelines.
3. If patient is an appropriate level trauma case, the EMS unit calls the ATCC on the appropriate AWIN talk group for their geographical area and passes information to the ATCC.
4. EMS unit proceeds to hospital based on information obtained from the ATCC.



- a. If unforeseen circumstances occur (e.g. change in patient condition, change in hospital capacity or capability, etc.), the EMS unit calls the ATCC for further instructions, rerouting, etc.

Note: EMS units and air ambulances can be interchanged in the above procedure.

II. Hospital to hospital transfer:

1. Hospital contacts ATCC by telephone and ATCC facilitates the trauma transfer.

E. AWIN Trauma Zones:

1. **Counties using Trauma 1 (North) as primary channel:**
Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Clay, Cleburne, Conway, Craighead, Crawford, Franklin, Fulton, Green, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Johnson, Lawrence, Logan, Madison, Marion, Mississippi, Newton, Perry, Poinsett, Pope, Randolph, Scott, Search, Sebastian, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, Washington, Yell
2. **Counties using Trauma 2 (South) as primary channel:**
Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Calhoun, Chicot, Clark, Cleveland, Columbia, Crittenden, Cross, Dallas, Desha, Drew, Faulkner, Garland, Grant, Hempstead, Hot Springs, Howard, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lee, Lincoln, Little River, Lonoke, Miller, Monroe, Montgomery, Nevada, Ouachita, Phillips, Pike, Polk, Prairie, Pulaski, Saline, Sevier, St. Francis, Union, White, Woodruff.
3. EMS units *traveling into* either the North or South Zone will need to change their trauma channels while in those zones.

F. How do I apply or transfer an ADH owned trauma AWIN radio for new or existing ambulances?

1. **There is currently no ADH owned trauma AWIN radios available.**
2. Complete the ADH Trauma AWIN Radio Application (found at the end of this document).
3. Email the ADH Application for approval to:
adh.trauma@arkansas.gov

G. I am purchasing a new AWIN radio and it is not owned by ADH. How do I get it on the system?

1. Purchase a radio with the specifications found in this document.
2. Complete the ADH Trauma AWIN Radio Application (found at the end of this document).
3. Email the ADH Application for approval to:
adh.trauma@arkansas.gov
4. Complete the AWIN new project application from the following link:
[AWIN New Project Application](#)
5. Email the approved ADH Application and the AWIN New Project Application to:
awin.applications@arkansas.gov



**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
TRAUMA AWIN RADIO APPLICATION**

A. Contact Information:

Service Name:

Mailing Address:

Contact Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

B. AWIN Installation/Repair Provider:

AWIN Provider Name:

Contact Name:

Phone Number:

C. Vehicle Information:

Ground Ambulance: Rotor Wing Air Ambulance:

New Install: VIN Number or Tail Number:

Transfer to another vehicle: VIN Number or Tail Number of old vehicle:

VIN Number or Tail Number of new vehicle:

D. Radio Information:

Radio Model Type:

Serial Number:

ADH owned radio: Yes or No

If No, list Owner:

Is this AWIN radio replacing another AWIN radio: Yes or No

If Yes, what is the Serial Number of the radio being replaced:

ADH Signature

X

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