

# LIFE OR LIMB POLICY

## EFFECTIVE JANUARY 13, 2014

**Life or Limb Policy applies when a patient presents with a life or limb threatening condition.**

**All consultations for Life or Limb cases should be coordinated through CritiCall Ontario:**

**1-800-668-4357**

Exceptions exist where established processes are already in place e.g., Ontario Stroke Network, Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention STEMI Program

### **Referring Physician:**

- Request an internal consultation to confirm that the patient requires a higher level of care than the hospital is able to provide
- Contact CritiCall Ontario to facilitate timely communication between referring physician and most appropriate consulting physician/service
- Clearly communicate to the CritiCall Ontario call agent that the patient is a life or limb case and cannot be safely cared for at the hospital

### **Consulting Physician:**

- Respond to pages from CritiCall Ontario regarding a provisional life or limb case within 10 minutes
- Provide medical consultation even if a bed or resources are not immediately available as the patient's life or limb threatened condition is priority
- Accept patients with life or limb threatening conditions that cannot be served by the hospital at which the patient is located, provided the clinical expertise is available

**Life or Limb Implementation Hospital Contact:  
INSERT HOSPITAL STAFF NAME/CONTACT INFORMATION**