Here is the suggested language (shown in red) for revision of NRS to allow paramedics to be listed as one of the licensed health care professionals who may perform the medical screening examination for psychiatric patients. They would need to be “authorized” by the local health authority to do this, and this would involve EMS medical control and development of a specific protocol at the EMS regulatory board level. This suggested language can at least start the conversation for tomorrow’s meeting.

NRS 433A.165 Examination required before admission of person to facility; treatment of certain medical conditions required before admission to facility; payment of costs; exceptions; regulations.

1. Before a person alleged to be a person with mental illness may be admitted to a public or private mental health facility pursuant to NRS 433A.160, the person must:
   (a) First be examined by a licensed physician or physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to NRS 632.237, or a licensed paramedic pursuant to NRS 450B.090 and 450B.095 at any location where such a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, or a licensed paramedic is authorized to conduct such an examination to determine whether the person has a medical problem, other than a psychiatric problem, which requires immediate treatment; and
   (b) If such treatment is required, be admitted for the appropriate medical care:
      (1) To a hospital if the person is in need of emergency services or care; or
      (2) To another appropriate medical facility if the person is not in need of emergency services or care.

Thank you,

Dave

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