

What to expect when you call an ambulance

It's no doubt stressful. But if you know the dos and don'ts, it can be a less bumpy ride

ANCHOR LEDE

Calling an ambulance is stressful. But health care providers want you to know the dos and don'ts so it's a less bumpy ride.

TAKE VO

Lisa Reid is a former ambulance worker who now practices family medicine at OSF HealthCare. She says after you call 9-1-1, stay where you are and let the first responders come to you. If you can, unlock the door and have your medical documents handy.

*****SOT*****

Lisa Reid, APRN
OSF HealthCare

"If it's a critical situation, they will often stabilize you and go [with you in the ambulance]. If it's something where they can stay and do IVs and monitor you, they will." (:14)

VO TAG

A couple other misconceptions:

First responders are trained to care for you in a moving vehicle. You shouldn't be afraid.

And just because you arrive at the hospital by ambulance doesn't mean you go to the front of the line.