

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

SOT

Lisa Reid, APRN

OSF HealthCare family medicine provider

"Paramedics have more training in life-saving skills. They can do things like intubation [putting a tube down your throat to help breathing] and give intravenous [IV] medications. Emergency medical technicians [EMTs] provide more basic care. They help stabilize the person and get them ready for transport. They also usually drive." (:20)

SOT

Lisa Reid, APRN

OSF HealthCare family medicine provider

"Some people put the information on their cell phone. Some people hang the documents on their refrigerator." (:06)

SOT

Lisa Reid, APRN

OSF HealthCare family medicine provider

"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)

SOT

Lisa Reid, APRN

OSF HealthCare family medicine provider

"Not always true. The ED is going to prioritize their emergencies based on the need for care. So to call an ambulance solely because you think you'll be first in line – that won't necessarily be true." (:15)