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

Critical Care Services Ontario
www.criticalcareontario.ca