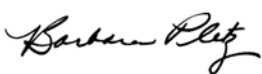




EMS SYSTEM POLICY/PROTOCOL DISTRIBUTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

APPROVED: 
EMS Medical Director


EMS Administrator

Authority Cited: Division 2.5 Health and Safety Code, Title 22 California Code of Regulations

1. The EMS Agency promulgates policies and protocols for the EMS System.
 - 1.1. The EMS Agency consults with appropriate advisory committees in the development and revisions to such policies and protocols.
 - 1.2. The EMS Agency obtains consultation from appropriate EMS advisory committees prior to promulgating such policies and protocols.
 - 1.3. The EMS Agency notifies EMS system participants as described within this policy.
2. Protocols
 - 2.1 These medical protocols are intended to provide prospective medical direction to prehospital medical personnel. These protocols include patient assessment information and outline medical treatment.
 - 2.2 Protocols are developed in consultation with the Quality Leadership Committee and the Medical Advisory Committee.
 - 2.3 Field care personnel are responsible for understanding current protocols:
 - 2.3.1 The EMS Agency notifies JPA/CDF/South San Francisco EMS coordinators and the AMR Clinical Education Coordinator (collectively referred to as "Coordinator" in this policy) of new or modified protocols prior to the effective date of the protocol. Each Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that information about the new or modified protocol is provided to all EMS field personnel within the Coordinator's area of responsibility. Once the AMR Meds Users E-mail system is in place, the EMS Agency will notify AMR Meds System current users of new or modified protocols via e-mail.
 - 2.3.2 New or modified protocols will be reviewed in periodic structured training sessions for field personnel jointly developed by the Coordinators and the EMS Agency.

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- 2.3.3 Paramedics are accountable for knowing current protocols and if a paramedic does not understand any protocol content, he/she is responsible for obtaining clarification from his/her Coordinator.
 - 2.4 The EMS Agency will publish current protocols on its website.
 - 2.5 The EMS Agency will periodically publish a hardcopy of all current protocols.
3. Policies
- 3.1 Policies developed in consultation with the appropriate advisory committee(s). Policies that are deemed to be “public policy issues” are reviewed and approved by the Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC). Committees that routinely provide consultation during EMS policy development include the Medical Advisory (MAC), Oversight, Supervisors, and Quality Leadership Committee (QLC).
 - 3.2 Field care personnel are responsible for understanding current policies:
 - 3.2.1 The EMS Agency notifies JPA/CDF/South San Francisco EMS coordinators and the AMR Clinical Education Coordinator of new or modified policies prior to the effective date. Such notification will summarize changes in the policy and identify the effective date of the policy. The EMS Coordinator is responsible ensuring that information about the new or modified policies is provided to all EMS field personnel within the Coordinator’s area of responsibility. The EMS Agency will notify AMR Meds System current users of new or modified policies via e-mail.
 - 3.2.2 Major policy changes will be reviewed in periodic structured training sessions for field personnel jointly developed by the Coordinators and the EMS Agency.
 - 3.2.3 Paramedics are accountable for knowing current policies and if a paramedic does not understand any policy content, he/she is responsible for obtaining clarification from his/her Coordinator.
 - 3.3 The MAC members representing receiving hospitals are responsible for keeping hospital emergency department physicians and nurses informed of those policies that are relevant to receiving hospitals.
 - 3.4 The EMS Agency will publish current policies on its website.