




PHYSICIAN ON THE SCENE

APPROVED:


EMS Medical Director


EMS Administrator

1. Physician: Bystander On-Scene
 - 1.1 When at the scene of an emergency, a physician who is positively identified by a California medical license and California driver's license or recognition of the physician by the receiving hospital, may:
 - 1.1.1 Assist the paramedic and offer suggestions, but let the paramedic remain under standard County protocols; or
 - 1.1.2 Request to speak to the receiving hospital physician and directly offer medical advice and assistance; or
 - 1.1.3 Assume total responsibility for the patient and care given by the paramedics, physically accompany the patient to the receiving hospital and sign for all instructions and treatment given.
 - 1.2 Receiving Hospital contact should be made on all calls where there is a physician on scene, and all pertinent information relayed to include treatment given, physician identification and patient destination.
 - 1.3 Any treatment provided by the paramedic must be in accordance with San Mateo County medical treatment protocols. If the physician wants to provide treatment outside these protocols, he/she must be the one to administer such treatment. The physician may use the paramedic equipment and the paramedic may assist the physician.
2. Physician: On the Telephone
 - 2.1 Paramedics may only take orders from physicians who are at a base/receiving hospital or the San Mateo County EMS Medical Director.

Issue Date: April 2002

Revised Date: April 2012, June 2015

Next Review Date: May 2018

All other physician contact is to be referred to the base/receiving hospital. The paramedic will advise the physician on the phone to contact the base/receiving hospital physician.

3. Physician: First Responders

3.1 If a physician responds to medical emergencies as a member of a first responder agency, the following conditions will apply:

3.1.1. He/she will have on his/her person a current California Medical License and California Driver's License and may be asked to show these documents to ambulance personnel.

3.1.2. When the paramedic arrives at the scene, the physician will give the paramedic a report on the patient to include a patient assessment and any BLS or ALS treatment which has been given.

3.1.3. After the paramedic arrives, the physician has the same options outlined above.

3.1.4. First responder physician consultation with the receiving hospital physician is encouraged.

3.1.5. The physician may, but is not required to, accompany the patient. The physician should accompany the patient unless it is the physician's professional opinion that it is not necessary to do so.