



SAN MATEO COUNTY
HEALTH SYSTEM

TO: SAN MATEO COUNTY EMT'S AND PARAMEDICS
FROM: GREGORY GILBERT, MD, EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR *GG*
DATE: JULY 23, 2014
SUBJECT: ROSC DEFINITION

Starting August 1, 2014, the prehospital definition for Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC) will be standardized as follows:

ROSC is when a patient has experienced a cardiac arrest requiring ACLS interventions AND has **a confirmed pulse by ED MD upon arrival** to a receiving hospital.

Do not document ROSC if the following occurs:

- 1) Momentary pulses noted but not sustained through arrival at receiving facility.
- 2) Bystander CPR initiated, but paramedic finds pulse present upon arrival, without Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) or any ACLS interventions.
- 3) ED MD states that there is no pulse or does not believe that ROSC present.
- 4) Non-transporting prehospital providers should never document ROSC unless they accompany the patient to the hospital. Instead, they should document pulses present at handoff to transporting paramedic.

Thank you for your compliance. This information is significant and will be entered into the national CARES registry.

CC: Brad White, General Manager AMR
John Odle, Executive Director, San Mateo County Pre-hospital Emergency
Medical Services Group
Louise Rogers, Interim EMS Administrator