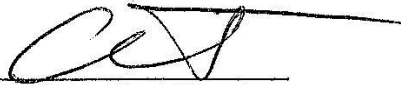


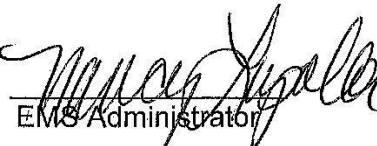


AUTHORITY ON SCENE

APPROVED:



EMS Medical Director



EMS Administrator

1. Authority

1.1 The Medical Scene Authority shall be the on-duty fire service paramedic or ambulance paramedic.

1.2 Penal Code Section 409.3
"...authority for patient care management at the scene of an accident shall be determined in accordance with Section 1798.6 of the Health and Safety Code."

1.3 Health & Safety Code Div. 2.5, Section 1798.6

1.3.1 "Authority for patient health care management in an emergency shall be vested in that licensed or certified health care professional, which may include any paramedic or other prehospital emergency personnel, at the scene of the emergency who is most medically qualified specific to the provision of rendering emergency medical care. If no licensed or certified health care professional is available, the authority shall be vested in the most appropriate medically qualified representative of public safety agencies who may have responded to the scene of the emergency..."

1.3.2 If any county desires to establish a unified command structure for patient management at the scene of an emergency within that county, a committee may be established in that county comprised of representatives of the agency responsible for county emergency medical services, the county sheriff's department, the California Highway Patrol, public pre-hospital-care provider agencies serving the county, and public fire, police, and other affected emergency service agencies established by an agreement for the joint exercise of powers under Chapter 5.

Issue Date: March 2004
Effective Date: April 2004
Revised Date: November 2011, June 2015
Next Review Date: May 2018

1.3.3 Notwithstanding subdivision (a), authority for the management of the scene of an emergency shall be vested in the appropriate public safety agency having primary investigative authority. The scene of an emergency shall be managed in a manner designed to minimize the risk of death or health impairment to the patient condition, and priority shall be placed upon the interests of those persons exposed to the more serious and immediate risks to life and health. Public safety officials shall consult emergency medical services personnel or other authoritative health care professionals at the scene in the determination of relevant risks.”

1.4 §100145. Scope of Practice of Paramedic.

1.4.1 “A paramedic may perform any activity identified in the scope of practice of an EMT-I in chapter 2 of this division, or any activity identified in the scope of practice of an EMT-II in chapter 3 of this division.

1.4.2 A paramedic shall be affiliated with an approved paramedic service provider in order to perform the scope of practice specified in this Chapter.

1.4.3 A paramedic student or a licensed paramedic, as part of an organized EMS system, while caring for patients in a hospital as part of his/her training or continuing education under the direct supervision of a physician, registered nurse, or physician assistant, or while at the scene of a medical emergency or during transport, or during interfacility transfer, or while working in a small and rural hospital pursuant to section 1797.195 of the Health and Safety Code, may perform the following procedures or administer the following medications when such are approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency and are included in the written policies and procedures of the local EMS agency.” (Source: <http://www.nasemso.org/legislation/California/cati22div9ch4ar2.html>)

2. Definitions

2.1 Scene Authority: The appropriate public safety agency having primary investigative authority for the incident.

2.2 Medical Authority: The most qualified licensed or certified San Mateo County EMS system health care professional

3. General Provisions

Issue Date: March 2004
Effective Date: April 2004
Revised Date: November 2011, June 2015
Next Review Date: May 2018

- 3.1 The Scene Authority is responsible for management of the emergency scene including, but not limited to, the requesting and directing of needed resources and scene security.
- 3.2 The Medical Authority is responsible for the medical management of patients including but not limited to medical treatment and transport.
- 3.3 The Scene Authority shall consult with the Medical Authority in the determination of relevant risks.
- 3.4. Any conflicts between the Scene Authority and the Medical Authority will be managed by the Issue Resolution Process.