

To: San Mateo County Prehospital Care Providers

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Subject: Nasal Tracheal Intubation, High Performance CPR, Expired Medications, Death with Dignity

Nasal Intubation

- Effective immediately we are retiring and removing Procedure 7 – Nasal Tracheal Intubation. There will no longer be supplies for this procedure in your equipment list either. Supplies removed from the inventory include: BAMB whistle, lidocaine jelly, lidocaine spray, and Neo-Syneprine spray.
- Nasal tracheal intubation has become a very infrequent skill. For example, since the inception of CPAP, our nasal intubation need has decreased. Out of 4 attempts county-wide annually success is at 25%.

High Performance CPR

- Intubation shall be attempted on all cardiac arrests except those with ROSC AND effective spontaneous breathing and is an important step in the High Performance CPR process.
- Once the necessary personnel have arrived on a cardiac arrest response with High Performance CPR in progress, the order in which to approach intubation shall be video laryngoscopy (if applicable), direct laryngoscopy, Bag Valve Mask, and lastly, if you are unable to ventilate with Bag Valve Mask, King Airway placement. King airway and Bag Valve Mask are not definitive advanced airways and physician consultation ***MUST*** be made for approval of termination of efforts.
- Remember to use capnography on all High Performance CPR calls and to evaluate the waveform and value and upload all monitor information to the cloud and download into your electronic patient care record.

Expired Medications

- The following medications are on backorder as there is a national shortage:
 - Atropine
 - Calcium Chloride
 - Dopamine
 - Epinephrine 1:1,000
 - Epinephrine 1:10,000
 - Sodium Bicarbonate

For now we will extend the expiration date on these medications to 90 days past the original expiration date. EMS will continue to monitor this situation.

Death with Dignity

- Operations 10, 10A, and 11 have been revised and consolidated into one policy now known as Operations 10. The revised policy is called “Determining Death in the Field: Honoring Prehospital Do Not Resuscitate, Advanced Health Care Directive, Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST), and End of Life Option (Aid-In-Dying Drug)”. A standardized instructional program for this policy has been sent out to all ALS JPA Zone and ALS Transport Agency supervisors.
- Please refer to the San Mateo County EMS Website to review this change (<http://www.smchealth.org/ems/policyprocedure>)

