



County of El Dorado

Emergency Medical Services Agency

2900 Fairlane Court
Placerville, CA 95667-4197

Kristine Guth, MPH
EMS Agency Manager

David Duncan, MD
EMS Agency Medical Director

Phone (530) 621-6500

*****PARAMEDIC ALERT***** **No. 2025-02**

April 23rd, 2025

TO: All EMS Personnel
FROM: El Dorado County EMS Agency
SUBJECT: Updates to Policy and Protocol
Purpose: Stakeholder Information

ALERT:

The LEMSA Medical Director has approved document edits in the two categories listed below:

1. Effective Immediately:

These updates to existing documents do not invoke new skills, new tools or significant departures from established policy. OneDose is updated concurrently.

101 Airway Obstruction

- PAC review by J. Felber
- Reorganized as a decision tree
- Added IM Epinephrine for persisting, complete airway obstruction preceding needle cric.

302 Chest Discomfort

- PAC review by N. Thomas and H. Youngblood
- Renamed
- Clarified ASA dosing for pts who self-administer PTA
- Included CQI Plan goal (*obtain and transmit diagnostic 12-lead within 10 minutes of pt contact*)
- Emphasis on rapid transport, using teamwork to complete interventions while packaging and getting en route.

401 Comprehensive 5150 Guidelines

- LEMSA review
- Merged two prior policies (401) Guidelines for IFT of 5150 Pts and (402) Patients Under 5150 Hold.
- Clarified guidance on LEO accompanying in ambulance vs. following

501 Bites, Stings, Envenomation

- PAC review by B. Gates
- Reorganized as a decision tree
- Clarified preferred BLS and ALS pain management approaches

810 Orotracheal Intubation

- PAC review by B. Mollet
- Reorganized as a decision tree

909 Hospice Patients

- PAC review by J. Novak
- Minimal edits and formatting

913 Reporting of Suspected Abuse

- PAC review by F. Braithwaite
- Updated Phone numbers and addresses
- Other minor edits

917 STEMI Destination

- PAC review by T. Kroll
- Added destination decision tree
- Clarified CQI Plan goal of <15 minutes on scene upon recognition of STEMI.
- Clarified that 'STEMI alert' should be communicated upon recognition of STEMI, not waiting until call-in.

918 Patient Destination

- LEMSA review w/ editorial input from Base Hospitals
- Updated the trauma destination decision tree based on 2021 field triage guidelines (ACS)
- Clarified CQI Plan goal of <10 minutes on scene for patients meeting trauma criteria.
- Clarified that the lowest BP obtained in the field should be communicated to the receiving facility with any trauma activation.

2. Effective June 1st 2025:

These updates include new (basic) procedures, important clarifications for field providers and new field policy decisions. These are published alongside current versions and marked with an effective date of June 1st, 2025, allowing time for familiarization. These will be uploaded to OneDose on the effective date.

913 Refusal of Care and or Transportation

- LEMSA review
- Updated definitions (Patient and Person)
- Clarified that when a presumed 'patient' is later determined to be a 'person', the full interaction and rationale must be documented.

402 Assessment of Subjects in Law Enforcement Custody

- **New policy**
- Establishes that EMS will respond at the request of law enforcement to assess a subject in custody and relay assessment findings, however, EMS shall not issue any form of 'clearance' or declare a patient 'stable' for medically unsupervised custody.

403 Managing Taser/Stun Device Patients

- LEMSA review
- Added criteria and procedure to allow EMS removal of taser darts
