



## *EMS Special Memorandum - #19-001*

Date: January 9, 2019

To: Mendocino/ Sonoma County EMS Providers and System Stakeholders

From: Bryan Cleaver  
Regional EMS Administrator

Mark Luoto, MD  
Regional EMS Medical Director

### **Re: Extended Time Interval for Stroke Symptoms Onset to Receiving Facility**

The intent of this memo is to advise our provider agencies and system stakeholders that CVEMSA will be implementing a change to the current *CVEMSA Treatment Guideline 9303 Acute Cerebrovascular Accident* for Mendocino and Sonoma Counties and should be considered interim guidance until the treatment guidelines revision process is complete.

Over the last several months CVEMSA staff have worked with provider and hospital partners to develop the Stroke Programs for Mendocino and Sonoma Counties. After careful review of the 2018 Stroke Guidelines released by the American Heart Association and the recent approval of The California EMS Authority (EMSA) Stroke Regulations, CVEMSA will be increasing the interval of Stroke Symptoms onset to receiving facility arrival to 18 hours or less as recommended by the Stroke and Protocol Revision workgroups.

#### **9303.4 Considerations**

**a. Transport should not be delayed for patients with symptoms indicating an acute stroke if the interval from the onset of symptoms to arrival at a receiving facility is expected to be 18 hours or less.**

CVEMSA staff is working with provider and hospital partners to update all treatment guidelines with a projected effective date of July 2019. This memo allows providers to implement this change to treatment guideline 9303 Acute Cerebrovascular Accident prior to the projected effective date. This change is effective immediately.