

1002 SCENE MANAGEMENT AND AUTHORITY

I. POLICY

- A. At the scene of a non-disaster medical emergency the following will occur per Health and Safety Code.

II. AUTHORITY FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCY SCENE MANAGEMENT

- A. Authority for patient health care management in an emergency shall be vested in that licensed and/or certified health care professional, which may include any paramedic or other prehospital emergency medical personnel, at the scene of an 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.
- B. EMS personnel shall properly identify, when operating within the scope of their employment to deliver patient care, to ensure;
 - 1. Patients right to identify their caregivers
 - 2. Coordinated multi agency operations on scene.
 - 3. Minimum requirements for personnel identification
 - 4. Organization
 - 5. Level of certification/licensure
 - 6. Name or certification/license number

III. CONTINUUM OF PATIENT CARE

- A. First responders, when first on-scene, should transfer patient care authority to the transport paramedic or EMT as soon as feasible.
- B. A paramedic may transfer patient care authority to a transport EMT per Administrative Policy 4008-Turnover of Patient Care and / or Administrative Policy 4010 EMT Transport of Emergent Patients.
- C. The individual with patient care authority is responsible for the patient until care is turned over to other prehospital personnel or receiving hospital staff.
- D. Medical management at the scene of a medical emergency includes:
 - 1. Medical Assessment.
 - 2. Medical aspects of extrication and all movement of the patient(s).
 - 3. Medical care.
 - 4. Patient destination decisions per LEMSA Treatment Regulation 7007- Point of Entry.
 - 5. Transport code.
- E. The assignment of responsibility for patient care management in the LEMSA System is based on resources available on scene, listed below, from the lowest level to highest level, with the

emergency ambulance service transport provider paramedic having the highest level of responsibility for patient care management (medical):

1. Public Safety First Aid
2. Non-transport EMT
3. Transport EMT
4. Non-transport Paramedic
5. Transport Paramedic

IV. PHYSICIAN ON-SCENE

- A. A paramedic may not accept direction from any source except the base hospital physician, except under the following circumstances:
 1. A qualified physician on-scene agrees to direct patient care and accompany the patient to the hospital; and
 2. Physician direction is within the paramedic scope of practice.
- B. A qualified physician is any physician licensed in the State of California.
- C. Procedure for physician on-scene of a pre-hospital call
 1. The paramedic shall:
 - a. Verify identity and credentials of the on-scene physician. A physician must produce a current California medical license and show it to the paramedic with a valid photo ID demonstrating that they are the person who's name is on the medical license.
 - b. Advise the physician of the options as described below;
 - i. Assist and offer advice regarding patient care, but allow the paramedic(s) to remain in control of the scene and transport the patient according to LEMSA policy; or,
 - ii. Consult with the Base Hospital Physician and offer advice on the care of the patient, allowing the Base Hospital Physician to direct care and transport; or
 - iii. Accompany the patient to the hospital and assume total responsibility for patient care until responsibility is assumed by the receiving physician.
 1. In this case, the paramedics will assist the physician as requested provided they operate within local scope of practice.
 2. Paramedics will advise the Base Hospital of the situation.
 3. All orders given by the on-scene physician shall be documented on the PCR and the physician's name and contact information will be documented on the PCR.
- D. Contact the Base Hospital Physician for consultation or conflict resolution as needed.

V. Personnel Identification

- A. Purpose – EMS personnel shall properly identify, when operating within the scope of their employment to deliver patient care, to ensure;
 1. Patients right to identify their caregivers
 2. Coordinated multi agency operations on scene.

- B. Minimum requirements for personnel identification
 - 1. Organization
 - 2. Level of certification/licensure
 - 3. Name or certification/license number