

# EL DORADO COUNTY EMS AGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

Effective: November 1, 2017



EMS Agency Medical Director

## USE OF POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS FROM ANOTHER LOCAL EMS AGENCY BY CONTRACTORS AND PERMITTEES

### PURPOSE:

This policy establishes that under certain circumstances the El Dorado County EMS Agency (EDC EMSA) may approve the use of policies, procedures, and protocols issued by the Local EMS Agency (LEMSA) of another County or jurisdiction by an ALS Contractor or Permittee, its subcontractors, employees and paramedics.

### DEFINITIONS:

EMS Agency Medical Director means a full or part-time licensed physician and surgeon, who has substantial experience in the practice of emergency medicine, that is designated by the county or by the joint powers agreement, to provide medical control and to assure medical accountability throughout the planning, implementation and evaluation of the EMS system as defined by the State of California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section §1797.202(a).

Local Emergency Medical Services Agency (LEMSA) means the agency, department, or office having primary responsibility for administration of emergency medical services in a county and which is designated pursuant to the State of California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 1797.200.).

Medical Direction means the management of an emergency medical services system under the medical control of the medical director of the local EMS agency.

### POLICY:

- 1) If a Contractor or Permittee serves a primary service area that is near or adjoining the County of El Dorado (COUNTY) and in which the majority of its ALS responses originate, the EDC EMSA may approve the policies, procedures, and protocols, including medical direction of the LEMSAs having jurisdiction over the primary service area for use within the COUNTY.
- 2) In an unusual or emergent situation, as determined by the EDC EMSA, the EDC EMSA may approve the policies, procedures, and protocols, including medical direction of the LEMSAs having jurisdiction over the primary service area of a Contractor or Permittee for use within the COUNTY to assure continuity of ambulance and EMS services.
- 3) The Contractor or Permittee must submit the policies, procedures, and protocols from the LEMSAs having jurisdiction over the primary service area for consideration and approval by the EDC EMSA prior to their use in the COUNTY. Additionally, any time that the policies, procedures, or protocols are changed or amended, or if the physician serving as medical director changes, the Contractor or Permittee shall submit copies of those changes and/or amendments to the EDC EMSA as soon as practical, but in no case later than 30 days after the adoption of each change or amendment.
- 4) The COUNTY, through its EMS Agency and EMS Medical Director may, at its sole discretion and at any time, approve or disapprove, of the policies, procedures, and protocols submitted by any Contractor or Permittee and any subsequent changes or amendments to those policies, procedures, or protocols.

- 5) Approval and/or disapproval of the policies, procedures, and protocols shall be in writing and may be contained within the written contract between the Contractor and COUNTY or within a permit or accompanying documentation issued by the COUNTY.
- 6) The approval of the policies, procedures, and protocols issued by another LEMSA may be temporary and effective for only a specific period of time.
- 7) In considering approval of the policies, procedures and protocols, including medical direction issued by another LEMSA, the EDC EMSA will, at a minimum, consider the following issues:
  - a. The degree of consistency with EDC EMSA policies, procedures, and protocols.
  - b. The size of the Contractor or Permittee's operation in the COUNTY in comparison with its operation in its primary service area.
  - c. The adequacy of the submitted policies, procedures, and protocols.
  - d. The medical director of the LEMSA.
  - e. The cost and difficulty of requiring the Contractor or Permittee to certify and credential its paramedics and operation in more than one LEMSA.
  - f. The interests and safety of EMS patients in the COUNTY.
- 8) If the EDC EMSA does not approve or withdraws its approval of any or all policies, procedures or protocols, including medical direction, the Contractor or Permittee shall be required to comply with the policies, procedures, protocols and medical direction of the EDC EMSA.
- 9) If the Contractor or Permittee is unable or unwilling to comply with EDC EMSA regarding any policy, procedure, protocol, or medical direction issue that is not approved, the COUNTY may terminate any contract according to its terms or cancel any permit.