



County of El Dorado

Emergency Medical Services Agency

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*****PARAMEDIC ALERT***** **No. 2023-09**

December 22, 2023

TO: EMS Personnel
FROM: El Dorado County EMS Agency
SUBJECT: Accreditation Policy and Protocol Edit
PURPOSE: Stakeholder information

Background:

1. The El Dorado County EMS Agency (EDCEMSA) is the Local Emergency Medical Services Authority (LEMSA) for the County of El Dorado.
2. Pursuant to CCR Title 22 § 100148, EDCEMSA shall establish policies and procedures governing the delivery of EMS services within its jurisdiction, including field procedures, policies and protocols.

ALERT:

This alert addresses two subjects:

1. The **paramedic accreditation process** was altered during COVID to minimize meetings/interactions, whilst also hastening accreditation to support staffing levels. This altered sequence, implemented out of necessity as a temporary measure, was sub-optimal and is no longer justified.

The Paramedic accreditation policy has been updated to accomplish the following:

- Return to the more appropriate pre-COVID sequence of application, orientation, field evaluation and accreditation.
- Eliminate the problem of accrediting paramedics who separate from

their employer within weeks, at which point LEMSA management of the issued card becomes very difficult.

- Make use of available technology to streamline the transfer of accreditation data (the 'packet') between applicants, FTOs, base hospitals and EDCEMSA.

The El Dorado County EMS FTO Corps was made aware of the pending change and has had access to the draft policy since October. The last of the IT components have since been put in place and the new process will go live January 1st, 2024.

The old and new accreditation policies are accessible on the [Application Center](#) page of the public website. Additionally, links and QR codes to the electronic forms replacing the 'packet' are located on the [Accreditation Resources](#) page, also accessible from the Application Center.

2. Subsequent to communications from stakeholders, there has been an edit to the **Shock protocol**.

In the boxes differentiating between shock types, in both the adult and pediatric sections, the term "*or gtt*" followed reference to push dose epinephrine. While an epi drip procedure was developed, it was later shelved on the reasoning that push dose epi would address most situations where a pressor was indicated. The text in question referred to that procedure and evaded the final edit on the Shock protocol. It has now been removed.

Apologies for any confusion this may have caused.
