



Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency



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EMS Administrator

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DATE: June 11, 2024

TO: Yolo County Providers and Agencies

FROM: Yolo County EMS Agency

SUBJECT: June 2024 EMS Protocol and Policy Revisions Update

MEMORANDUM

Effective June 1, 2024 the following Policies, Protocols and Procedures went into effect for all Yolo County Providers. The protocol app and YEMSA.org have been updated. It is acceptable for providers to operate under old protocols through June 30, 2024 while these changes are circulated and socialized.

The Updated Protocols, Policies, and Quick Reference sheet are attached. Additionally, a self-paced training presentation for Basic Life Support (BLS) providers is attached. Each agency is responsible for ensuring that its personnel receive this information.

Please review the additions and changes thoroughly. If you have any questions, please contact Megan Rizzo at (530) 490-3962 or Megan.Rizzo@yolocounty.gov.

UPDATES

Various Protocols and procedures were edited to create consistency in language and to clean up formatting. Any material changes to the direction of care are noted below.

Protocols:

Burns

- Direction for 20 minutes of Cool Running Water (20CRW) prior to transport

Heat Illness

- Heat Stroke - direction to support rapid cooling efforts on-scene when conducted by Athletic Training Staff
- Advanced Life Support – IV fluid boluses indicated for hypotension

Policies:

Ambulance Patient Offload Times (APOT) Drop Off Policy

- Establishes Yolo County Ambulance Patient Offload Delay (APOD) standard at 20 minutes
- Multiple updates to clarify expectations for all parties
- Established parameters for “hallway” EMS providers to assume care of patients experiencing APOD
- Established parameters for EMS transport direct to ED waiting room

- Various other changes

Patient Destination

- Updated to Most Accessible Facility to clarify considerations for traffic delays
- Updated “Unreasonably Removing Transport Unit from the Area” to define criteria when a destination request may be declined by transport provider
- Various other changes

Patient Refusal of Treatment/Transport

- Redefined patient eligibility to refuse care based on “decisional capacity”
- Defined eligibility to appoint a Surrogate Health Care Decision Maker
- Updated criteria for eligibility for “Release at Scene” versus Refusing Against Medical Advice
- Clarifies criteria for BLS versus ALS personnel documenting patient refusal
- Updates to requirements for Base Hospital Consultation
- Various other changes

Refusal Form/Release of Responsibility

- Updates to indemnification statements
- Various formatting changes and updates
- ***Please note*** YEMSA will notify partners when the updated form is printed and ready for pickup. Please continue using the old form until you receive the new copies

Quick Reference:

Interfacility Transport (IFT) Level of Service Quick Guide

- Newly developed quick reference to assist medical facility staff when requesting an ambulance for interfacility transport. The guide outlines the capabilities of Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulances and when Critical Care Transport (CCT) ambulances are needed. The intent of this guide is to provide a resource that will assist healthcare facilities in selecting appropriate ambulances with the goal of preserving the availability of limited resources like 911 ALS ambulances and CCT for when they are truly needed.
- ***Please note,*** the level of services described in this quick guide are for IFTs only. All 911 responses by first responders must adhere to the scope of practice, assessment, and treatment policies defined by YEMSA Policy, Protocols, and Procedures. First responders not certified as EMT-Basic (BLS), Paramedic (ALS), or on-duty Flight RNs may only perform treatment and care at the Public Safety First Aid and CPR level of service.