

**SIERRA-SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY
PROGRAM POLICY**

REFERENCE NO. 838

SUBJECT: PHYSICIAN ON SCENE

PURPOSE:

To define patient care responsibilities when a physician is on the scene of a medical emergency, and one or more Paramedic or Advanced EMT personnel are present.

AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.220, 1798.2.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9.

POLICY:

It is the policy of the S-SV EMS Region that a Paramedic or Advanced EMT encountering a physician on the scene shall maintain responsibility for patient care unless the physician assumes responsibility for patient care and accompanies the patient to the hospital.

A Paramedic or Advanced EMT may assist the patient's physician provided the Paramedic or Advanced EMT operates within the approved S-SV scope of practice.

PROCEDURE:

- A. Physician is a bystander:
 - 1. Take care of patient first.
 - 2. Require I.D. If needed, use card (see below) provided by State of California.
 - 3. If the physician wishes to do more than offer assistance, s/he must get approval from the base / modified base hospital.
 - 4. If the physician wishes care given that does not conform to the Paramedic or Advanced EMT personnel's training, scope of practice, and S-SV EMS protocols, explain to the physician that the Paramedic license or Advanced EMT certification prevents the Paramedic or Advanced EMT from doing anything that does not conform to their training, scope of practice, S-SV EMS policies/protocols, and base hospital medical control.

Effective Date: 07/01/2010

Date last Reviewed / Revised: 06/10

Next Review Date: 06/2013

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Approved:

SIGNATURE ON FILE
S-SV EMS Medical Director

SIGNATURE ON FILE
S-SV EMS Regional Executive Director

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- a. The physician must:
 - Assume responsibility for the patient.
 - Provide the care s/he wishes.
 - Accompany the patient to the hospital.

- 5. In the event of conflict, follow orders of medical control and document events.

- B. Physician is patient's physician:
 - 1. Require I.D. if physician is unknown to Paramedic or Advanced EMT.
 - 2. The patient's physician may administer medication from his/her drug inventory.
 - 3. The Paramedic or Advanced EMT may follow the patient's physician's orders if they do not conflict with the Paramedic or Advanced EMT scope of practice.

 - d. If there is a conflict between patient's physician's orders and the Paramedic or Advanced EMT scope of practice, explain that you can legally only treat within the S-SV Paramedic or Advanced EMT scope of practice. Contact medical control and ask patient's physician to discuss any problem issues with the base hospital.

CROSS REFERENCES:

Policy and Procedure Manual

Base Hospital/Modified Base Hospital Contact, Reference No. 812.

Advanced EMT Scope of Practice, Reference No. 802

Paramedic Scope of Practice, Reference No. 803.

EMSA / CMA PHYSICIAN ON SCENE SAMPLE CARD:

<p style="text-align: center;">STATE OF CALIFORNIA cma</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">California Medical Association</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;"><u>NOTE TO PHYSICIAN ON INVOLVEMENT WITH EMT-Is AND EMT-Ps (PARAMEDIC)</u> A life support team (EMT-Il or EMT-P (Paramedic)) operates under standard policies and procedures developed by the local EMS agency and approved by their Medical Director under the authority of Division 2.5 of the California Health and Safety Code. The drugs they carry and procedures they can do are restricted by law and local policy.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">If you want to assist, this can only be done through one of the alternatives on the back of this card. These alternatives have been endorsed by the CMA, State EMS Authority, CCLHO, and BMOA.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Assistance rendered in the endorsed fashion, without compensation, is covered by the protection of the 'Good Samaritan Code' (see Business and Professions Code, sections 2144, 2395-2398 and Health and Safety Code, Section 1799.104).</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;"><u>ENDORSED ALTERNATIVES FOR PHYSICIAN INVOLVEMENT</u></p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">After identifying yourself by name as a physician licensed in the State of California, and, if requested, showing proof of identity, you may choose to do one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offer your assistance with another pair of eyes, hands, or suggestions, but let the life support team remain under base hospital control; or, 2. Request to talk to the base station physician and directly offer your medical advice and assistance; or, 3. Take total responsibility for the care given by the life support team and physically accompany the patient until the patient arrives at a hospital and responsibility is assumed by the receiving physician. In addition, you must sign for all instructions given in accordance with local policy and procedure. (Whenever possible, remain in contact with the base station physician.) <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">REV. 7/88 88 49638 Provided by the Emergency Medical Services Authority</p>
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