

SIERRA-SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY PROGRAM POLICY

REFERENCE NO. 915

**SUBJECT: MOBILE INTENSIVE CARE NURSE AUTHORIZATION /
REAUTHORIZATION**

PURPOSE:

To establish a mechanism for obtaining authorization/reauthorization to practice as a Mobile Intensive Care Nurse (MICN) within the S-SV EMS region.

AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.56, 1797.200, 1798.100 and 1798.200.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4.

POLICY:

In order to be eligible for authorization/reauthorization to practice as an MICN in the S-SV EMS region, all applicants shall:

- A. Be currently licensed as a registered nurse in the State of California.
- B. Maintain CPR recognition and ACLS recognition.
- C. Be employed by an S-SV EMS base hospital and recommended for authorization/reauthorization, or
- D. Be employed by an S-SV EMS approved ALS provider and meet all requirements listed under the "Field MICN" Section of this policy.

INITIAL AUTHORIZATION:

Applicants shall have at least six months (1040 hours) of clinical experience within the last two years in the emergency department of an acute care hospital, and meet the criteria of one of the following categories in order to be eligible for authorization:

- A. **Initial Authorization (S-SV approved regional course), the individual shall:**
 - 1. Have an MICN Course Completion Record from an S-SV EMS Agency approved regional Mobile Intensive Care Nurse training program within the past 12 months.

Effective Date: 07/01/2010
Next Review Date: 06/2013
Approved:

Date last Reviewed / Revised: 06/10
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SIGNATURE ON FILE
S-SV EMS Medical Director

SIGNATURE ON FILE
S-SV EMS Regional Executive Director

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2. If the S-SV approved course was completed over a period of one year, but less than two years prior to application, the individual shall:
 - a. Complete an S-SV EMS region orientation.
 - b. Successfully complete an S-SV base hospital MICN orientation, which shall include supervised ALS radio calls. The base hospital coordinator shall notify the S-SV EMS Agency, in writing, when the MICN applicant has demonstrated competency in providing “on-line” medical control utilizing S-SV policy/protocols.
 - c. Complete four hours of ambulance ride-along with an S-SV approved ALS service provider with two ALS contacts (If two ALS patient contacts are not completed, two ALS patient scenarios will be conducted by the paramedic).
 - d. Pass the S-SV EMS Regional MICN Authorization Examination with a minimum score of 80%. The MICN Authorization Examination may be repeated in two weeks. Subsequent retake examinations may be taken in two months.
3. If the S-SV approved course was completed over two years prior to application, and the individual has maintained authorization as an MICN in Sacramento County, the individual shall comply with the requirements in section (2) above.

B. Initial S-SV Authorization (non S-SV regional course), the applicant shall:

1. Provide proof of completion of a basic Mobile Intensive Care Nurse Course.
2. Complete an S-SV EMS region orientation.
3. Pass the S-SV EMS regional MICN Authorization Examination with a minimum score of 80%. The MICN Authorization Examination may be repeated in two weeks. Subsequent retake examinations may be taken in two months.
4. Complete four hours of ambulance ride-along with an S-SV approved ALS service provider with two ALS contacts (If two ALS patient contacts are not completed two ALS patient scenarios will be conducted by the paramedic).
5. Successfully complete an S-SV base hospital MICN orientation, which shall include supervised ALS radio calls. The base hospital coordinator shall notify the S-SV EMS Agency, in writing, when the MICN applicant has

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demonstrated competency in providing “on-line” medical control utilizing S-SV policy/protocols.

REAUTHORIZATION:

A. An MICN shall fulfill the following requirements in order to maintain current MICN authorization within the S-SV EMS region. Failure to comply means that the MICN has failed to maintain authorization and the individual shall not function as an MICN until the requirements are met.

1. Maintain license as a Registered Nurse in California.
2. Maintain CPR recognition.
3. Maintain ACLS recognition.
4. Complete a total of not less than twelve hours every two years of the following continuing education:
 - a. A minimum of four (4) hours prehospital care focused education of recorded or written patient care records, and
 - b. A minimum of four (4) hours of ambulance ride-along with an S-SV approved ALS service provider with two ALS contacts (If two ALS patient contacts are not completed, two ALS patient scenarios will be conducted by the paramedic).

NOTE: The remaining four (4) hours may be from either of the two above categories, at the MICN's discretion.

The MICN shall be given credit only for actual times in attendance.

5. Base hospital recommendation for reauthorization.
 - a. Each base hospital shall have a quality improvement program which includes the on-going monitoring and evaluation of MICN radio calls.
 - b. Recommendation for reauthorization shall be based on the results of the quality improvement MICN monitoring and evaluation.

B. "Inactive" status.

1. An MICN who does not meet the requirements specified in Reauthorization Section (above) shall be placed on "inactive" status. The base hospital coordinator shall be responsible for reporting the inactive status, in writing, to the S-SV EMS Agency.
2. To resume active MICN status, the following requirements shall be met:
 - a. If the individual has been inactive for a period of less than 12 months:
 - Complete an orientation to current S-SV policies/procedures protocols. The orientation can be provided by the S-SV base hospital coordinator.

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- b. If the individual has been inactive for a period of more than one year but less than two years:
- Complete an S-SV EMS orientation.
 - Successfully complete an S-SV base hospital MICN orientation, which shall include ten supervised ALS radio calls.
 - Complete four (4) hours of ambulance ride-along with an S-SV approved ALS service provider with two ALS contacts (If two ALS patient contacts are not completed two ALS patient scenarios will be conducted by the paramedic).
- c. If the individual has been inactive for a period of more than two years:
- Pass the S-SV EMS regional MICN authorization examination with a minimum score of 80%. The MICN authorization examination may be repeated in two weeks. Subsequent retake examination may be taken in two months.
 - Complete initial authorization requirements.

NOTE: Inactive MICN status does not result in an extension of S-SV MICN authorization. If the individual's S-SV MICN authorization expires during the period of "inactive" status, S-SV reauthorization requirements shall also be met prior to returning to active status.

PROCEDURE:

Eligible candidates shall complete/meet the following:

- A. Complete an S-SV application form.
- B. Complete a statement that the individual is not precluded from authorization to practice as an MICN for reasons defined in the California Health and Safety Code, Section 1798.200.
- C. Pay S-SV authorization/reauthorization fee.
- D. Provide documentation/evidence of the following:
 - 1. Valid and current licensure as a Registered Nurse in the State of California.
 - 2. Mobile Intensive Care Nurse Course Completion Record or completion of 12 hours of required continuing education.

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3. Current CPR recognition.
 4. Current ACLS recognition.
 5. Employment in an S-SV base hospital emergency department, with recommendation for authorization/reauthorization.
 6. For initial authorization, proof of six months (1040 hours) of emergency department clinical experience as a registered nurse within the last two years.
- E. Successfully complete applicable orientation, ride-along, supervised radio contacts and/or testing as required.
- F. Provide a copy of a U.S. government issued photo identification card.

NOTE: Upon completion of the above requirements: authorization/reauthorization will be for a period of two years from the date of completion of all S-SV authorization / reauthorization requests.

FIELD MICN PERSONNEL:

- A. Personnel previously authorized and in good standing as a Field MICN by another LEMSA in California may be authorized as a Field MICN by the S-SV EMS Agency providing the following requirements are met:
1. The individual was authorized as a Field MICN prior to July 1, 2010, and that authorization is current at the time of request for S-SV EMS Field MICN authorization.
 2. The individual is currently and continually employed by an S-SV EMS approved ALS provider.
 3. The individual solely or primarily functions in a field EMS capacity.
 4. The individual satisfactorily completes the Paramedic Infrequently Used Skills – Verification of Maintenance requirements listed in S-SV EMS Policy Reference No. 1110 on an annual basis.
 5. The individual maintains PALS or PEPP recognition in addition to the other requirements listed previously in this policy.
- B. Personnel not authorized by the S-SV EMS Agency to function as a Field MICN on or before July 1, 2010 will not be authorized in this capacity at a later date.

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- C. If an S-SV EMS authorized Field MICN fails to maintain continuous employment in such a capacity with an S-SV EMS approved ALS field provider, the field authorization will no longer be valid and cannot be reinstated in the future.
- D. Authorized Field MICN personnel are approved to operate utilizing all current S-SV EMS policies and field treatment protocols including all paramedic optional skills that they have been properly trained and approved for. Procedures and/or medications not currently authorized in S-SV EMS policies and field treatment protocols will not be performed by personnel while functioning in the Field MICN capacity under the authority of the S-SV EMS Medical Director.
- E. In order to maintain appropriate medical oversight, the S-SV EMS Medical Director maintains the authority to deny, suspend, place on probation, or revoke an individual's Field MICN authorization for cause.
 - 1. Decisions to deny, suspend, place on probation, or revoke a Field MICN authorization will be consistent with other EMS professional investigation and certification action procedures currently in place including all appropriate appeals processes.
 - 2. If a Field MICN authorization is suspended, the individual will no longer be approved to function in this capacity until the suspension is lifted.
 - 3. If a Field MICN authorization is placed on probation, all terms of the probation must be successfully met. If the terms of probation are not met, the S-SV EMS Medical Director may revoke the Field MICN authorization for cause.
 - 4. If a Field MICN authorization is revoked for cause, the individual will no longer be approved to function in this capacity and field authorization cannot be reinstated in the future.
 - 5. The S-SV EMS Agency may also report information and/or concerns regarding authorized Field MICN personnel to the Board of Registered Nursing for further investigation as necessary.
- F. Field MICN Authorization does not apply to RN personnel who are employed by an S-SV EMS approved Air Ambulance provider. These personnel operate under the authority, policies and protocols of their provider Medical Director and do not require MICN authorization to function in this prehospital capacity in the S-SV EMS region.