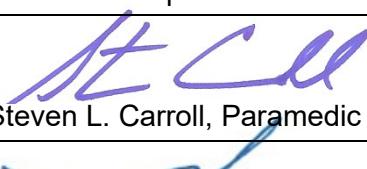


COUNTY OF VENTURA
HEALTH CARE AGENCYEMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policy Title ALS Base Hospital Standards		Policy Number: 410
APPROVED Administration:	Steven L. Carroll, Paramedic 	Date: June 1, 2024
APPROVED Medical Director:	Daniel Shepherd, MD 	Date: June 1, 2024
Origination Date: Date Revised: Date Last Reviewed: Review Date:	August 22, 1986 February 8, 2024 February 8, 2024 February 28, 2027	Effective Date: June 1, 2024

- I. PURPOSE: To define the criteria, which shall be met by an acute care hospital in Ventura County for Base Hospital (BH) designation.
- II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1798, 1798.101, 1798.105, 1798.2 and California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 100175.
- III. POLICY:
 - A. An Advanced Life Support (ALS) BH, approved and designated by the Ventura County Emergency Medical Services (VCEMS), shall:
 1. Meet all requirements of an ALS Receiving Hospital (RH) per VCEMS Policy 420.
 2. Have an average emergency department (ED) census of 1200 or more visits per month.
 3. Have the capability to provide, at all times, operational phone with the capability to record the communications, between the BH and paramedics.
 - a. If the communications capability of the BH is interrupted, the ALS provider and the nearest BH shall be notified immediately by telephone.
 - b. ALS calls shall be routed to the nearest BH until communication capability is restored and telephone notification of the ALS provider and nearest BH is made.
 - c. All equipment used for ALS communications shall operate within the frequency requirements of the Ventura County Communications Department. At the time that a countywide communication system is implemented, all ALS providers shall comply with the Ventura County Communications Department ALS communications plan.
 4. Assure that communication between the BH and ALS Unit for each ALS call shall be provided only by the BH ED physician or Ventura County authorized Mobile Intensive Care Nurse (MICN) by radio or telephone.

5. Designate a Prehospital Liaison Physician (PLP) who shall be a physician on the hospital staff, licensed in the State of California and have experience in emergency medical care. The PLP shall:
 - a. Be regularly assigned to the ED.
 - b. Have experience in and knowledge of BH operations.
 - c. Be responsible for overall medical control and supervision of the ALS program within the BH's area of responsibility including review of patient care records and critique of personnel involved.
 - d. Be responsible for reporting deficiencies in patient care to VCEMS.
 - e. Coordinate BH activities with RH, Prehospital Services Committee (PSC) and VCEMS policies and procedures.
 - f. Attend PSC meetings.
 - g. Provide ED staff education.
 - h. Evaluate paramedics for clinical performance and makes recommendation to VCEMS.
 - i. Evaluate MICNs for authorization/reauthorization and makes recommendation to VCEMS.
6. All ED Physicians shall be certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine OR the American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine OR be Board eligible
7. Have on duty, on a 24-hour basis, one (1) MICN who meets the criteria in VCEMS Policy 321.
8. Identify an MICN with experience in, and knowledge of, BH communications operations and VCEMS policies and procedures as a Prehospital Care Coordinator (PCC) to assist the PLP in the medical control, supervision, and continuing education (CE) of prehospital care personnel. The PCC shall be a full-time or full-time equivalency employee whose responsibility is dedicated to the oversight and management of the prehospital / EMS duties of the BH.
9. Provide for the CE of prehospital care personnel, paramedics MICNs, EMTs, and first responders, in accordance with VCEMS:
10. Cooperate with and assist the PSC and the VCEMS medical director in the collection of statistics and review of necessary records for program evaluation and compliance.
11. Assure that paramedics perform medical procedures only under medical direction of a physician or Ventura County authorized MICN except for approved standing orders.

12. Agree to maintain all recorded communications and prehospital data in a manner consistent with hospital data requirements. Prehospital data includes, but is not limited to, the recording of the prehospital communication, prehospital care record, paramedic BH communications form and documentation of telephone communication with the RH (if utilized). All prehospital data except the recording will be integrated with the patient chart.
- B. There shall be a written agreement between the BH and VCEMS indicating the commitment of hospital administration medical staff, and emergency department staff to meet requirements for ALS program participation as specified by State regulations and VCEMS policies and procedures.
- C. The VCEMS shall review its agreement with each BH at least every two years.
- D. The VCEMS may deny, suspend, or revoke the approval, of a BH for failure to comply with any applicable policies, procedures, or regulations. Requests for review or appeal of such decisions shall be brought to the PSC and Board of Supervisors for appropriate action.
- E. A hospital wishing to become an ALS BH in Ventura County must meet Ventura County BH Criteria and agree to comply with Ventura County regulations.
1. Application:
Eligible hospitals shall submit a written request for BH approval to VCEMS documenting the compliance of the hospital with the Ventura County BH Criteria.
 2. Approval:
 - a. Program approval or disapproval shall be made in writing by the VCEMS to the requesting BH within a reasonable period of time after receipt of the request for approval and all required documentation. This time period shall not exceed three (3) months.
 - b. The VCEMS shall establish the effective date of program approval in writing upon the satisfactory documentation of compliance with all the program requirements.
 3. Withdrawal of Program Approval:
Non-compliance of any criterion associated with program approval, use of non-certified personnel, or non-compliance with any other Ventura County regulation applicable to a BH, may result in withdrawal, suspension or revocation of program approval by the VCEMS.
- F. Advanced Life Support BHs shall be reviewed every two years..
1. All BH's shall receive notification of evaluation from the VCEMS.
 2. All BH's shall respond in writing regarding program compliance.
 3. On-site visits for evaluative purposes may occur.

4. Any BH shall notify the VCEMS by telephone, followed by a letter within 48 hours of changes in program compliance or performance.

COUNTY OF VENTURA
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

BASE HOSPITAL
CRITERIA COMPLIANCE CHECK LIST

Base Hospital: _____

Date: _____

	YES	NO
An Advanced Life Support (ALS) Base Hospital (BH), approved and designated by the Ventura County Emergency Medical Services (VCEMS), shall:		
1. Meet all requirements of an ALS Receiving Hospital (RH) per (VCEMS) Policy 420.		
2. Have the capability to provide, at all times, operational phone with the capability to record the communications, between the BH and paramedics. If the communications capability of the BH is interrupted, the ALS provider and the nearest BH shall be notified immediately by telephone. All equipment used for ALS communications shall operate within the frequency requirements of the Ventura County Communications Department. At the time that a countywide communication system is implemented, all ALS providers shall comply with the Ventura County Communications Department ALS communications plan.		
3. Have the capability to provide, at all times, operational phone with the capability to record the communications, between the BH and paramedics.		
4. Designate a Prehospital Liaison Physician (PLP) who shall be a physician on the hospital staff, licensed in the State of California, and have experience in emergency medical care. The PLP shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be regularly assigned to the Emergency Department (ED). • Have experience in and knowledge of BH operations. • Be responsible for overall medical control and supervision of the ALS program within the BH's area of responsibility including review of patient care records and critique of personnel involved. • Be responsible for reporting deficiencies in patient care to VCEMS. • Coordinate BH activities with RH, Prehospital Services Committee (PSC) and VCEMS policies and procedures. • Attend PSC meetings. • Provide ED staff education. • Evaluate MICNs for authorization/reauthorization and make recommendation to VCEMS. 		
5. All BH ED Physicians shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine OR the American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine OR be Board eligible 		
6. All BH MICN's shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be authorized in Ventura County by the VCEMS Medical Director. • Be assigned only to the ED while functioning as an MICN. • Maintain current ACLS certification. • Be a BH employee. 		

	YES	NO
7. Identify an MICN with experience in and knowledge of BH communication operations and VCEMS policies and procedures as a Prehospital Care Coordinator (PCC) to assist the PLP in the medical control, supervision, and continuing education (CE) of prehospital care personnel. The PCC shall be a full-time or full-time equivalency employee whose responsibility is dedicated to the oversight and management of the prehospital / EMS duties of the BH.		
8. Provide for the CE of prehospital care personnel (paramedics MICN's, EMTs, and first responders), in accordance with VCEMS Policy 1131:		
9. Cooperate with and assist the Prehospital Services Subcommittee (PSC) and the VCEMS MD in the collection of statistics and review of necessary records for program evaluation and compliance.		
10. Assure that paramedics perform medical procedures only under medical direction of a physician or Ventura County authorized MICN except for approved standing orders and medical procedures.		
11. Agree to maintain all recorded communications and prehospital data in a manner consistent with hospital data requirements. Prehospital data includes, but is not limited to the tape of the prehospital communication, prehospital care record paramedic BH communications form, documentation of telephone communication with the RH (if utilized). All prehospital data except the tape recording will be integrated with the patient chart.		
12. Submit a letter to VCEMS indicating the commitment of hospital administration medical staff, and emergency department staff to meet requirements for program participation as specified by State regulations and VCEMS policies and procedures.		