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Public Health Division



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POLICY MEMORANDUM 6612

Implementation Date: August 26, 2023
Review Date: August 1, 2025

REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:

A blue ink signature of Pranav Shetty.

PRANAV SHETTY, MD, MPH, EMS AGENCY MEDICAL DIRECTOR

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BENJAMIN GAMMON, EMT-P, EMS AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT: USE OF CARDIAC MONITOR AS AN ASSESSMENT TOOL

AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.200, 1797.220,

I. PURPOSE:

To establish procedures to allow for discontinuing a cardiac monitor to facilitate transfer of care to Basic Life Support (BLS) units to transport non-emergent, stable patients.

II. CARDIAC MONITOR USE AS AN ASSESSMENT TOOL IN DETERMINATION OF BLS TRANSPORT

- A. Advanced Life Support (ALS) personnel may use a cardiac monitor as an assessment tool to in the evaluation of any patient with a medical or trauma complaint.
- B. If it is determined by the ALS personnel that the patient is stable with non-life-threatening complaints and does not require any ALS treatment per protocol, the cardiac monitor may be discontinued to facilitate transfer of care to a BLS unit for transport.

1. If any other ALS treatment has been initiated, the cardiac monitor cannot be discontinued, unless allowed by protocol or base hospital order, and the patient cannot be transferred to a BLS unit for transport.

III. QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- A. Any discontinuation of a cardiac monitor as described in Section II of this policy will be 100% audited by the transport provider to ensure patient safety and adherence to existing policy and protocol.
 - B. If any abuse of this policy is found during an audit, the provider must file a Field Advisory Report (FAR) as described in Policy 2305.
 1. All FAR submissions on the abuse of this policy may result in an investigation by the EMT's certification entity or investigation by the California State EMS Authority for Paramedics.
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