



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY

Jared Bagwell, Director

Dr. Katherine Shafer MD, EMS Medical Director

Policy Memorandum No. 2025-02

DATE: October 1, 2025

TO: All Prehospital Personnel and Providers
Base Hospital Personnel
Acute Care Hospitals

FROM: Katherine Shafer, M.D., EMS Medical Director
Jared Bagwell, EMS Director

SUBJ.: **Temporary Authorization for Alternative Cervical Spine Stabilization Device**

The purpose of this policy memorandum is to provide temporary authorization for alternative cervical spine stabilization devices due to supply chain shortage, affecting San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency's (SJCEMSA) approved cervical spine stabilization device the X-Collar™. This temporary authorization for an alternative to the X-Collar™ shall be in effect until rescinded by SJCEMSA.

SJCEMSA Medical Director approves the use of the following cervical spine stabilization devices as alternatives to the X-Collar™:

- I. Philadelphia® Cervical Collar
- II. Aspen® Cervical Collar
- III. Miami J® Cervical Collar

All prehospital providers shall ensure EMS personnel are trained on the alternative cervical spine stabilization devices listed above. Minimum levels for alternative cervical spine stabilization devices shall be a (2) per available size.

These changes will be temporary to the following policies:

- I. SJCEMSA Policy No. 4101, EMS Response Vehicle Medication and Equipment
- II. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5115, Cervical Spine Stabilization
- III. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5502, BLS Scope of Practice Summary

Please contact SJCEMSA EMS Duty Officer or at (209) 468-6818 for any questions or concerns.