

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY



**TITLE: SJCEMSA POLICY DEFINITIONS**

**EMS Policy No. 1100**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this reference document is to establish standard terminology that will be found throughout the SJCEMSA policies and procedures.

1. "Ambulance Service"- means the activity, business or service, for hire, profit or otherwise, of transporting one or more persons by ambulance on or in any of the streets, roads, highways, alleys, or any public way or place in this County. (1001)
2. "Ambulance" or "AMB"- means a vehicle specially constructed, modified or equipped and used for the purpose of transporting sick, injured, convalescent, infirm, or otherwise incapacitated persons. "Ambulance" does not include the nonemergency transportation of persons confined to wheelchairs. (1001) (4101)
3. "Disciplinary Cause or Reason"- means only an action that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a paramedic and is considered evidence of a threat to the public health and safety as identified in subdivision (c) of Section 1798.200. (2720) (2715)
4. "Emergency call"- means a request for an ambulance to transport or assist persons in apparent sudden need of medical attention; or, in medical emergency, as determined by a physician, to transport blood, or any therapeutic device, accessory to such device, or tissue or organ for transplant. (1001)
5. "Emergency response permit zones"- means the areas shown on the map entitled "Emergency Response Permit Zones of San Joaquin County" on file in the Office of the Sheriff and Clerk of the Board, and as it may be changed from time to time by the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors. (1001)
6. "Emergency service"- means the service performed in response to an emergency call. "Emergency service" also includes transportation of a patient, regardless of a presumption of death of the patient, or transportation of a body for the purpose of making an anatomical gift, as provided in Section 12811, Vehicle Code, and the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act, Health and Safety Code. (1001)
7. "Permit officer" means the Director of Health Care Services or his/her designee. (1001)
8. "Sentinel event"- means an unexpected occurrence involving death or serious physical or psychological injury or the risk thereof. Serious physical injury includes, but is not limited to, loss of limb or function. The phrase "or the risk thereof" includes any process variation for which a recurrence of the variation or event carries a significant chance of morbidity, or mortality, or other serious adverse outcome.

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- (6101).
9. "5150 Hold" means a patient who is held against their will for evaluation under the authority of Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 5150, because the patient is a danger to themselves, a danger to others, and/or gravely disabled, e.g., unable to care for self. This is an order placed by a law enforcement officer, County mental health worker, or an emergency physician certified by the County to place an individual on a 5150 hold.
  10. "Accredited EMT" means an EMT that is appropriately trained, meets competency standards, and has been accredited by the SJCEMSA to perform the optional EMT scope of practice skill(s) specified in Title 22, Chapter 2, Section 10064 approved by SJCEMSA, if any. (2360)
  11. "Accredited Paramedic" means a paramedic that has completed the requirements of EMS Policy No. 2540, Paramedic Accreditation, and is authorized by the SJCEMSA to perform advanced life support (ALS) within San Joaquin County. (2541, 2560).
  12. "ACE Accreditation" means an Accredited Center of Excellence (ACE) as awarded by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED). (6670).
  13. "Adult Major Trauma Patient"- means a patient 13 years of age or older, or taller than a length-based assessment tape (146.5 cm), and meets one or more of the major trauma triage criteria. (4709) (5210)
  14. "Adult" means a person eighteen years of age or older, or an emancipated minor. (5109)
  15. "Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (Advanced EMT or A/EMT)" means a
  16. "Advanced Life Support (ALS)" means special services designed to provide definitive prehospital emergency medical care as described in Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.52.
  17. "Advanced Life Support Rescue Aircraft" or "ALS Rescue Aircraft" means a rescue aircraft whose medical flight crew has at a minimum one attendant certified or licensed in advanced life support. (4441).
  18. "Against Medical Advice (AMA)" the act of a patient, parent or legal representative declining or refusing indicated medical treatment or transport. (5109).
  19. "Air Ambulance" means any aircraft specially constructed, modified or equipped and used for the primary purposes of responding to emergency calls and transporting critically ill or injured patients whose medical flight crew has at a minimum two (2) attendants certified or licensed in advanced life support. (4441).
  20. "Air Rescue Service" means an air service used for emergencies including search

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- and rescue. (4441).
21. "ALS emergency ambulance" means a SJCEMSA authorized and properly permitted ambulance staffed with at least one paramedic and one EMT. (5104).
  22. "Ambulance Arrival at the Emergency Department"- means the time the ambulance stops at the location outside the hospital emergency department where the patient will be unloaded from the ambulance. (4985) (6341)
  23. "Ambulance Cluster"- means five (5) or more ambulances simultaneously experiencing APOD at the same receiving hospital. (4985) (6341)
  24. "Ambulance Patient Offload Delay (APOD)" or "Non-Standard Patient Offload Time"- means the occurrence of an APOT that exceeds the APOT Standard of twenty (20) minutes. (4985) (6341)
  25. "Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT)"- means the time interval between the arrival of an ambulance patient at an emergency department and the time the patient is transferred to an emergency department gurney, bed, chair or other acceptable location and the emergency department assumes the responsibility for care of the patient. (4985) (6341)
  26. "Ambulance Provider"- means an entity properly permitted to operate an ambulance service in San Joaquin County. (3101) (3109) (3202).
  27. "Ambulance Transport"- means the transport of a patient from the prehospital EMS system by emergency ambulance to a receiving hospital. (4985) (6341)
  28. "Approved Ambulance Dispatch Center"- means a dispatch agency, center or organization which provides ambulance dispatch services, and which complies with San Joaquin Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency dispatch policies and procedures as determined by the EMS Agency. (1001).
  29. "AQUA" means a stand-alone quality assurance software that automates the entire emergency medical dispatch case review process. (6670).
  30. "ASTM" means American Society for Testing and Materials. (3109)
  31. "Authorized MPDS Center" means an EMS call processing center that is authorized by the SJCEMSA to utilize MPDS through direct medical control. (6670).
  32. "Auxiliary Rescue Aircraft" means a rescue aircraft which does not have a medical flight crew or whose medical flight crew does not meet the minimum requirements for BLS rescue aircraft. (4441).
  33. "Available for consultation"- means on call and available for consultation by telephone within thirty (30) minutes. (4712) (4713).

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34. "Base Hospital Physician"- means a physician or surgeon who is currently licensed in California, who is assigned to the emergency department of a base hospital, and who has been trained to issue advice and instructions to prehospital emergency medical care personnel consistent with treatment protocols and medical control policies established by the San Joaquin County EMS Agency. (4901).
35. "Disaster Control Facility (DCF)" - means a facility designated by SJCEMSA to perform the functions of directing the prehospital care system in accordance with the policies and procedures of the SJCEMSA. (3410) (3411).
36. "Base Hospital"- means San Joaquin General Hospital which is responsible for medical control of the prehospital care system in accordance with the policies and procedures of the EMS Agency. (3410) (5201) (3400).
37. "Basic Life Support Rescue Aircraft" or "BLS Rescue Aircraft" means a rescue aircraft whose medical flight crew has at a minimum one attendant certified as an EMT-I with at least eight (8) hours of hospital clinical training and ten (10) hours of field clinical experience in the aeromedical transport of patients. (4441).
38. "Basic Life Support" means those procedures and skills contained in the EMT-I scope of practice as specified in Title 22, California Code of Regulation Section 100063. (4441).
39. "Behavioral Restraint"- means a physical restraint that is used to limit mobility or temporarily immobilize a patient who presents with a behavior crisis and poses an imminent threat to themselves or others. (5107)
40. "BLS emergency ambulance" means a SJCEMSA authorized and properly permitted ambulance staffed with two Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). (5104).
41. "CAAHEP" means Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. (2800)
42. "Cardiac Catheterization Team"- means the specially trained health care professionals that perform percutaneous coronary intervention. It may include, but is not limited to, an interventional cardiologist, mid-level practitioners, registered nurses, technicians, and other hospital personnel needed to perform PCI. (4801)
43. "CCP" means Critical Care Paramedic. (2800)
44. "Certificate holder"- means an individual that has been issued a valid EMT or Advanced EMT certificate pursuant to Health and Safety Code Division 2.5. (2710)
45. "Certificate" means a valid Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or AEMT certificate issued pursuant to Division 2.5 of the California Health and Safety Code.

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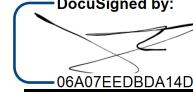
  
Dr. Jennifer Snyder, MD

Approved:

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Medical Director

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- (2715)
46. "Certifying entity"- means the medical director of the San Joaquin County EMS Agency or a public safety provider, if that provider has a training program approved pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 1797.109. (2710) (2715)
  47. "CHEMPACK"- means a voluntary component of the Federal Strategic National Stockpile Program (SNS) operated by the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) for the benefit of the U.S. civilian population. The CHEMPACK program's mission is to provide state and local governments a sustainable nerve agent antidote cache that increases their capability to respond quickly to a nerve agent event such as a terrorist attack. (7101)
  48. "Classifying EMS Agency" or "Classifying Agency" means the local EMS agency which categorizes EMS aircraft as an air ambulance, ALS rescue aircraft, BLS rescue aircraft, or auxiliary rescue aircraft. The classifying local EMS agency shall be the local EMS agency in the jurisdiction of origin except for aircraft operated by the California Highway Patrol which shall be classified by the EMS Authority. (4441).
  49. "Clinical Stroke Team"- means a team of healthcare professionals who provide care for the stroke patient and may include, but is not limited to: neurologists, neuro-interventionalists, neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, emergency medicine physicians, registered nurses, advanced practice nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists, radiologic technologists. (4811)
  50. "Clock Start"- means the timestamp that captures when APOT begins. (4985) (6341)
  51. "Clock Stop"- means the timestamp that captures when APOT ends. (4985) (6341).
  52. "CoAEMSP" means Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions. (2800).
  53. "Capacity"- means a patient with legal authority to consent and with the ability to understand, retain, and use relevant information to make informed decisions about their own healthcare.
  54. "Continuing Education" or "CE"- means a course, class, activity or experience designed to be educational in nature, with learning objectives and performance evaluations for the purpose of providing EMS personnel with reinforcement of basic EMS training as well as knowledge to enhance individual and system proficiency in the practice of pre-hospital emergency medical care. (2900, 2910)
  55. "Continuous Quality Improvement" or "CQI"- means methods of evaluation that are

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*Judyann Snyder, MD*  
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Medical Director  
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- composed of structure, process, and outcome evaluations which focus on improvement efforts to identify root causes of problems, intervene to reduce or eliminate these causes, and take steps to correct the process. (6630)
56. "Critical Care Transport" or "CCT"- means an ambulance staffed with two attendants: an EMT and an authorized register nurse. (4101)
57. "Disaster Control Facility" or "DCF"- means a SJCEMSA designated facility which is assigned responsibility for determining the destination of patients transported by ambulance from a multi-casualty incident in accordance with the policies and procedures of the SJCEMSA. (3415) (3400).
58. "Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)"- means no chest compression, no assisted ventilation, no defibrillation, no intubation, and no cardiac medications. (5105)
59. "Door to Balloon"- means the time interval as measured from the time the patient arrives at the hospital emergency department until completion of Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI), also known as angioplasty. (6381, no longer in 6381)
60. "Door to Needle"- means the time interval as measured from the time the patient arrives at the hospital emergency department until initiation of fibrinolytic therapy. (6382, No longer in policy)
61. "Emancipated Minor"- means a person under the age of 18 years that is married or previously married, on active military duty, a court decreed emancipated minor, which maybe verified by DMV identification card.
62. "EMD" means an IAED certified Emergency Medical Dispatcher. (6670).
63. "Emergency Ambulance Provider"- means an entity properly permitted to operate an emergency ambulance service to include advanced life support in San Joaquin County. (6301).
64. "Emergency Department Medical Personnel" or "ED Medical Personnel"- means a physician, mid-level practitioner, or registered nurse. (4985) (6341)
65. "Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)"- means a person certified by the LEMSA at the emergency medical responder level to provide basic emergency medical care until more advanced personnel arrive.
66. "Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency" means the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency. (3101)
67. "Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Continuing Education Provider"- means an individual or organization approved to conduct continuing education courses, classes, activities or experiences and issue earned continuing education hours to EMS personnel for the purpose of maintaining certification/licensure or

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Signed by:

*Kathleen Snyder, MD*

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- reestablishing lapsed certification or licensure. (2900)
68. "Emergency Medical Services Aircraft" or "EMS Aircraft"- means any aircraft utilized for the purpose of pre-hospital emergency patient response and transport. EMS aircraft includes air ambulances and all categories of rescue aircraft. (4442) (4447) (4441).
69. "Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)"- means a person who has successfully completed a basic EMT course which meets the requirements of the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, and has passed all required tests and who has been certified by an EMT certifying entity. (2710, 2360, 2560, 2710, 2715)
70. "Emergency"- means a condition or situation in which an individual has a need for immediate medical attention or where the potential for need is perceived by EMS personnel or a public safety agency. (5108) (5109)
71. "EMR Provider"- means an organization authorized by the SJCEMSA to participate in the EMS system for the purpose of providing non-transport prehospital patient care at the EMR level. (3202) (3205).
72. "EMS Authority"- means California EMS Authority. (2720)
73. "EMS CE Provider" means an individual or organization approved to conduct continuing education courses, classes, activities or experiences and issue earned continuing education hours to EMS personnel for the purpose of maintaining certification/licensure or reestablishing lapsed certification or licensure. (2910)
74. "EMS Duty Officer" means an on call 24/7 employee of the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency (SJCEMSA) designated to serve as the alternate San Joaquin County Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) and empowered to act on behalf of the SJCEMSA. (4981)
75. "EMS Landing Site"- means a site at or as close as practical to a medical emergency; a transfer point; or a pre-designated site at or near a medical facility. (4447)
76. "EMS Personnel"- means the EMR, paramedic, emergency medical technician B, advanced emergency medical technician, authorized registered nurse, or physician responsible for a patient's out of hospital patient care and ambulance transport. (4985) (6341)
77. "EMS Response Vehicle"- means all ambulances and any fire apparatus or other motor vehicle used to respond to EMS requests. (4101)
78. "EMS Service Provider" means an organization delivering emergency medical care

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Approved: *Kathleen Snyder, MD*  
Medical Director

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- as part of the San Joaquin County emergency medical services (EMS) system to the sick and injured at the scene of an emergency, during transport or inter-facility transfer. (2559)
79. "EMS System Quality Improvement Program" or "QIP"- means methods of evaluation that are composed of structure, process and outcome evaluations which focus on improvement efforts to identify root causes of problems, intervene to reduce or eliminate these causes and take steps to correct the process. (2900)
80. "EMSA" means California Emergency Medical Services Authority. (2800).
81. "EMT-P employer" or "paramedic employer"- means an entity or organization approved by the San Joaquin County EMS Agency to provided advanced life support (ALS) services. (2720) (2715)
82. "Enhanced Skills EMT" means an EMT that is appropriately trained, meets competency standards, and is functioning as part of the organized San Joaquin County EMS System. (2360, 6621)
83. "Exclusive Operating Area" or "EOA" means an EMS area or subarea defined in SJCEMSA's EMS Plan that restricts operations to one or more emergency ambulance services or providers of ALS or LALS.
84. "Healthcare Coalition" means the San Joaquin Operational Area Healthcare Coalition. (7001).
85. "Heliport"- means an area of land, water, or structure used or intended to be used for the landings and take-offs of helicopters and includes its buildings and facilities, if any, as approved by the State of California, Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics. (4447).
86. "Helispot"- means an area of land improved or unimproved where the helicopter will be landing. (4447)
87. "Hospital Impact Cluster (HIC)"- means a minimum of five or more ambulances at a hospital off-loading patients during an entire hour. (6341)
88. "IAED"- means the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch. (3202, 3101, 6670)
89. "Imaging device"- means any device capable of capturing and storing still or moving images such as digital or other cameras, video cameras, cellular phones with picture taking or video recording capability, or any other devices with picture taking or video recording capability. (5102)
90. "Immediately available"- means being dedicated to the trauma center while on duty; unencumbered by conflicting duties or responsibilities; responding without delay

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- when alerted; and being physically present in the patient treatment area when the patient arrives or within fifteen (15) minutes of activation, whichever is later but not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes from the time of patient arrival; with a minimum documented compliance rate of 80% for each calendar month, with no single instance being greater than thirty (30) minutes from activation. (4712) (4713)
91. "Imminent Death"- means for the purpose of this policy any situation in which illness in the adult unconscious patient (18 years of age or older) are so severe that death is likely to occur prior to or shortly after the patient arrives at the hospital. (5110)
92. "Implied Consent"- means a type of consent involving a presumption that an unconscious or incompetent person would consent to life or limb saving care. Implied consent includes non-emancipated minors with an emergency condition when a parent or legal representative is unavailable. (5109)
93. "In house"- means being physically present in the trauma center, unencumbered with conflicting duties, and responding without delay upon activation. Arriving to the patient treatment area within ten (10) minutes of activation with a minimum documented compliance rate of 80% for each calendar month, with no single instance being greater than fifteen (15) minutes from activation. (4712) (4713)
94. "Infrequently Used Skills" means those ALS procedures that have been identified by the SJCEMSA Medical Director through the Quality Improvement (QI) process which are performed on an infrequent basis requiring additional training or qualifications to maintain knowledge and competency as a precedent for practice in the San Joaquin County EMS System. (2541)
95. "Interventional Cardiologist"- means a physician credentialed by the SRC. (4801) Emergency Department Status
96. "Investigative Review Panel or IRP"- means an impartial advisory body composed of members who are knowledgeable in the provision of prehospital emergency medical care and local EMS system policies and procedures convened to review allegations against the holder of an EMS prehospital emergency medical care certificate, assist in establishing the facts of the matter, and provide findings to the medical director of the local EMS agency. (2740)
97. "Jurisdiction of Origin" means the local EMS agency jurisdiction within which the authorized air ambulance service or rescue aircraft is operationally based. (4441).
98. "KPI" means Key Performance Indicator. (6670).
99. "Legal Guardian"- means a person who is granted custody or conservatorship of another person by a court of law. (5108).

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*Kathyann Snyder, M.D.*

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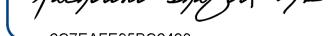
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100. "Limited advanced life support" or "LALS" means special services designed to provide prehospital emergency medical care limited to techniques and procedures that exceed the BLS scope of practice but are less than ALS scope of practice in accordance with the advanced emergency medical technician (AEMT) scope of practice and other policies, procedures and protocols established by the SJCEMSA. (4101).
101. "Med Net" means a pool of UHF public safety frequency pairs designated by the Federal Communications Commission for use by persons or entries engaged in the provision of basic or advanced life support services. (3400).
102. "Medical Alert" means a patient needing immediate physician intervention and bedding at the receiving hospital. (3411).
103. "Medical Director"- means the medical director of the San Joaquin County EMS Agency. (2710, 2715)
104. "Medical Flight Crew"- means the individual(s), excluding the pilot, specifically assigned to care for the patient during aircraft transport. (4442) (4441).
105. "Medical Restraint"- means a physical restraint that is used to limit mobility or temporarily immobilize a patient for non-behavioral management reasons. (e.g., to promote healing by preventing the dislodgment of medical devices, or to protect a child or adult who is confused and/or disoriented and unable to follow instructions for his/her personal safety). (5107)
106. "MHOAC" mean the San Joaquin County Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator. (7001).
107. "Minor" means a person less than eighteen years of age who is not emancipated. Except for specific circumstances prescribed by law, a minor is not legally competent to consent to or refuse medical care. 1. "Emancipated Minor" means a person under the age of 18 years that is: 1) Married or previously married; 2) On active military duty; 3) A court decreed emancipated minor, which may be verified by Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) identification card. (5108)
108. "Mobile Intensive Care Nurse" or "MICN"- means a registered nurse who has been authorized by the medical director of the San Joaquin County EMS Agency as qualified to issue instructions to prehospital emergency medical personnel consistent with treatment protocols and medical control policies established by the San Joaquin County EMS Agency. (4901)
109. "MPDS"- means the Medical Priority Dispatch System. (3202) (3205) (3101) (3204) (5104) (6670).

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110. "Multiple Certificate Holder"- means a person who holds more than one valid prehospital emergency medical care certificate issued pursuant to Division 2.5 of the State of California Health and Safety Code. (2740)
111. "NA" means not authorized. (4101)
112. "Neonatal Transport"- means the ambulance transport of a newborn or infant in a neonatal transport isolette from one hospital to another hospital for admission to a licensed neonatal intensive care unit. (4411)
113. "Non-Transport paramedics" means an approved advanced life support fire department or district staffed with at least one paramedic. (5104).
114. "Non-traumatic Life Threatening Condition"- means a medical patient with an unmanageable airway compromised by swelling or obstruction, or uncontrolled bleeding, or rapidly deteriorating vital signs. (5201)
115. "NR"- means not required. (4101)
116. "NRLS" means an immediate response without delay not requiring or using emergency red lights and siren. (3101).
117. "NT"- means a non-transport EMS response vehicle.
118. "On call"- means the specified trauma team member, specialist, or healthcare professional is to be available to respond for trauma care in a defined manner and time period, i.e. immediately available, promptly available, available for consultation. (4712) (4713).
119. "Organized EMS system" means those entities included in the San Joaquin County EMS Agency's EMS Plan as submitted to the Emergency Medical Services Authority pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 1797.254, or as amended. (2360).
120. "Par Level"- means the minimum quantity of an item stocked at the beginning of a shift, which will be automatically replenished, should the level fall below the preset level. (4101)
121. "Paramedic Intern" or "Intern"- means a paramedic student that has completed didactic and clinical portions of paramedic training and is eligible for and who is in the process of completing the field internship portion of paramedic training. (2571) (4301)
122. "Paramedic Preceptor" or "Preceptor"- means a licensed and accredited
123. "Paramedic" means a person who is educated and trained in all elements of the prehospital advanced life support (ALS), and has been licensed by the State of California as a paramedic. (2560)

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*Kathyann Snyder, M.D.*

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Medical Director

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124. "PCI Procedure Success"- means achievement of thrombolysis in myocardial infarction (TIMI) score Grade III flow.
125. "Pediatric major trauma patient"- means a patient 12 years of age or younger, is not taller than a Broselow Tape (146.5 cm), and that meets one or more of the major trauma triage criteria. (4709) (5210)
126. "Percutaneous Coronary Intervention" or "PCI"- means a procedure used to open or widen a narrowed or blocked coronary artery to restore blood flow supplying the heart. (4801)
127. "Pertinent History" means only medical history that is needed to assist in the bedding determination. (3411).
128. "Prehospital Certificate" or "Certificate" means any valid certificate to provide prehospital emergency medical care issued pursuant to Division 2.5 of the State of California Health and Safety Code. (2740)
129. "Primary Stroke Center" or "PSC"- means a receiving hospital designated as a PSC by the SJCEMSA or designated as a PSC by another local EMS agency and recognized by the SJCEMSA. (5201).
130. "Promptly available"- means arrival to the patient treatment area within thirty (30) minutes with a minimum documented compliance rate of 80% for each calendar month, with no single instance being greater than forty-five (45) minutes from alert. (4712) (4713)
131. "Protected Health Information (PHI)"- means any information related to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; the provision of health care to an individual; or the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual. PHI includes information that may be oral or recorded and in any form or medium that is created or received by prehospital care personnel or an EMS provider. Protected health information (PHI) includes any individually identifiable health information. Identifiable refers not only to data that is explicitly linked to a particular individual (that's identified information). It also includes health information with data items which reasonably could be expected to allow individual identification. (5102)
132. "Protected Personal Information (PPI)"- means not limited to PHI, pictures or other forms of voice or image recording, patient address, telephone numbers, social security number, date of birth, age, or any other information which could be used to uniquely identify the patient or that could result in identity theft if released for unauthorized purposes or to unauthorized personnel. (5102)
133. "Qualified specialist" or "qualified surgical specialist" or "qualified non-surgical

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Approved:

*Kathleen Snyder, MD*

Medical Director

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EMS Administrator

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- specialist"- means a physician licensed in California who is board certified or eligible for board certification in a specialty by the American Board of Medical Specialties, the Advisory Board for Osteopathic Specialties, a Canadian board or other appropriate foreign specialty board as determined by the American Board of Medical Specialties for that specialty. A non-board certified physician may be recognized as a "qualified specialist" by the SJCEMSA if all of the following condition are met (4712)
134. "RDMHC"- means Regional Disaster Medical Health Coordinator. (7040)
135. "Receiving Hospital" means a licensed general acute care hospital with a permit for basic or comprehensive emergency services designated by SJCEMSA to receive patients from the prehospital environment. (3411).
136. "Relevant employer(s)"- means those ambulance service providers permitted by the Department of the California Highway Patrol or a public safety agency (i.e. fire department or law enforcement agency) that the certificate holder works for or was working for at the time of the incident under review as an EMT or Advanced EMT whether as a paid employee or a volunteer. (2710, 2715)
137. "Rescue Aircraft" means an aircraft whose usual function is not prehospital emergency patient transport but which may be utilized, in compliance with local EMS policy, for prehospital emergency patient transport when use of an air or ground ambulance is inappropriate or unavailable. Rescue aircraft includes ALS rescue aircraft, BLS rescue aircraft and Auxiliary rescue aircraft. (4441).
138. "Residency program" means a residency program of the trauma center or a residency program formally affiliated with the trauma center where senior residents can participate in educational rotations, which have been approved by the appropriate Residency review Committee of the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education. (4712)
139. "RLS"- means an emergency response without delay using emergency red lights and siren as appropriate for driving conditions. (3202)
140. "ROSC"- means the return of spontaneous circulation following cardiac arrest. (5201)
141. "Senior resident" or "senior level resident"- means a physician, licensed in the State of California, who has completed at least three (3) years of the residency or is in their last year of residency training and has the capability of initiating treatment and who is in training as a member of the residency program of the trauma center. (4712) (4713)
142. "Sepsis Alert" means patients meeting Septic Shock criteria listed in EMS Policy

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- No. 5700, Advanced Life Support Treatment Protocols, AGEN-01. (3411).
143. "SJCEMSA" means the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency, which is the designated local EMS agency (LEMSA) for San Joaquin County pursuant to California's EMS Act. (4101)
144. "STEMI Alert" means patients meeting STEMI alert criteria listed in EMS Policy No. 5201, Medical Patient Destination. (3411).
145. "STEMI Receiving Center" or "SRC"- means a licensed acute care hospital with the capability to perform PCI which has satisfied the requirements for designation as set forth by the San Joaquin EMS Agency. (4801) (5201)
146. "STEMI Team" means the clinical personnel, support personnel, and administrative staff that function together as part of the hospital's STEMI program. (4801)
147. "STEMI" means ST Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction and refers to a clinical syndrome defined by symptoms of myocardial infarction in association with ST-segment elevation on electrocardiogram. (6381).
148. "Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)"- means the national repository of antibiotics, chemical antidotes, antitoxins, life-support medications, IV administration, airway maintenance supplies, and medical/surgical materiel for use in a declared biological or chemical terrorism incident. (7101)
149. "Stroke Alert" means patients meeting stroke alert criteria listed in EMS Policy No. 5201, Medical Patient Destination. (3411).
150. "Stroke Call Roster"- means a schedule of licensed health professionals available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, three hundred sixty-five (365) days a year for the care of stroke patients. (4811)
151. "Stroke Program Manager"- means a registered nurse or qualified individual designated by the hospital with the responsibility for monitoring and evaluating the care of stroke patients and the coordination of performance improvement and patient safety programs for the stroke center in conjunction with the stroke medical director. (4811)
152. "Stroke Program"- means an organizational component of the hospital specializing in the care of stroke patients. (4811)
153. "Stroke" means a condition of impaired blood flow to a patient's brain resulting in brain dysfunction, most commonly through vascular occlusion or hemorrhage. (6382).
154. "Suspected Stroke Patient"- means a potential acute stroke patient diagnosis

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- based off an assessment from a prehospital personnel or member of a clinical stroke team. (4811, 6382).
155. "System Impact Cluster (SIC)"- means a minimum of twenty-five percent of the EMS system's scheduled ambulances are unavailable to respond to 911 system requests due to time spent off-loading patients at hospitals during an entire hour. (6341)
156. "Telehealth"- means the mode of delivering health care services and public health via information and communication technologies to facilitate the diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, care management, and self-management of a patient's health care while the patient is at the originating site and the health care provider is at a distant site. (4811)
157. "Transfer of Patient Care to Hospital"- means both the physical and verbal report transition of patient care responsibility from EMS personnel to receiving hospital Medical Personnel. (4985) (6341)
158. "Trauma Alert" means patients meeting major trauma triage criteria outlined in EMS Policy No. 5210, Major Trauma Triage Criteria. (3411).
159. "Unprotected Area" means is that portion of San Joaquin County bordered by the main San Joaquin River Channel to the north; the San Joaquin River to the east; the Old San Joaquin River and the Grant Line Canal to the south and west; and the Old River and Contra Costa County line to the west, and is unique in San Joaquin County for not having a fire district or other form of public fire service protection to participate in the EMS system. (3204, 3205).
160. "Unusual Occurrence" means any of the following: a. Breech of any standard of care or care outside scope of practice; b. Key equipment failure; c. Deviation from EMS policy that have potential to result in patient, EMS personnel, or public harm; d. Clinical treatment or medication administration errors that have potential to result in patient, EMS personnel, or public harm; e. Suspected violations of Health and Safety Code; f. Actual or potential injury to a patient or EMS personnel; g. Any occurrence that EMS personnel perceive as benefiting from a SJCEMSA review. (6102).
161. "Validated"- means for the purpose of this policy to determine by preliminary evaluation that an act specified in Health and Safety Code Section 1798.200 may have occurred. (2715)
162. "Valley Regional Emergency Communications Center" or "VRECC" means the EMD center operated by American Medical Response and designated as the EMS emergency ambulance dispatch center for all of San Joaquin County. (3205).

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Medical Director

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163. "WebEOC"- means a secure online emergency management and information sharing platform for use by authorized agencies and organizations within the San Joaquin County Operational Area. (4981)
164. "Written EMS Report"- means the written report supplied to ED Medical Personnel that details patient assessment and care provided by EMS Personnel. (6341)

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Medical Director

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EMS Administrator