

PROVIDER MEDICAL DIRECTOR FUNCTIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES

PURPOSE

To differentiate the functions and responsibilities of provider medical directors from the functions and responsibilities of the Marin County EMS Agency Medical Director.

DEFINITION

- A. The Marin County EMS Agency Medical Director is the physician employed by or under contract for services to the County of Marin.
- B. A provider Medical Director is the physician who meets the criteria listed below and is the physician employed by or under contract for services to a County-approved ALS Provider.
 1. Currently licensed in California as a physician
 2. Board certified or qualified in Emergency Medicine
 3. Familiar with the current EMS system in Marin County
 4. Experienced with prehospital care components

POLICY

- A. The Marin County EMS Agency Medical Director is responsible for providing medical control and assuring medical accountability throughout the planning, implementation and evaluation of the EMS system.
- B. Under the authority of the Marin County EMS Agency Medical Director a provider Medical Director may perform the following duties and responsibilities as appropriate.
 1. Interface with other components of the system such as hospitals, other providers, physicians, nurses, contracting agencies.
 2. Participate in disaster training, planning, and preparation.
 3. Develop, implement and monitor programs or mechanisms for the following:
 - a. Problem-solving medically related issues or issues relating to the performance of paramedics, to handle questions or complaints regarding personnel
 - b. Medical equipment and supply procurement, storage and maintenance, including routine checks of narcotics
 - c. Billing procedures (if any)
 - d. Community education related to EMS
 - e. A field training and evaluation process providing for evaluation of performance of new employees or employees new to the position, yearly performance evaluations, and method for monitoring performance if deemed necessary
 - f. Infectious disease precautions and training
 4. Develop and implement an effective quality improvement program working toward continuous system and patient care improvement, to include the following:
 - a. Prospective off-line medical direction, including the following:
 1. On-going evaluation of skill adequacy and method in place to maintain skills at an acceptable level;

2. Verification that equipment is present and paramedics are knowledgeable in its use;
 3. Tailoring of on-going in-house education according to the needs of the individual provider agency.
- b. Retrospective off-line medical direction to include the following:
 1. Review of care to assure compliance with system protocols including review of written patient care records; and
 2. Method for evaluating field care.
- C. The provider Medical Director shall have regular and active participation in the Physicians Advisory Committee.