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Executive Director

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Medical Director

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-PARAMEDIC SCOPE OF PRACTICE

I. AUTHORITY

Division 2.5, California Health and Safety Code, sections 1797.206; 1797.214; 1797.218; 1797.220 and; 1797.221. Title 22, California Code of Regulations, sections 100144 and 100145.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Emergency Medical Technician means a person who has successfully completed an EMT course which meets the requirements of Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 2, and who is certified as an EMT in the state of California.
- B. "Paramedic" means an individual who is educated and trained in all elements of prehospital advanced life support, which is licensed by the state of California as a paramedic and accredited by the Agency Medical Director.
- C. "Altered Standard of Care" means a level of medical care delivered to individuals under conditions of duress, such as after a disaster or when medical supplies are insufficient for demand for emergency care.
- D. "Medical/Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC)" means the Public Health Officer and Local EMS Agency Administrator or designee who is responsible, in the event of a disaster or major incident where mutual aid is requested, for obtaining and coordinating services and allocation or resources within the Operational Area (county) border.

III. PURPOSE

To define the Paramedic scope of practice approved for use within the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency member counties.

IV. POLICY

- A. A Paramedic may perform any activity identified in the scope of practice of an EMT or Advanced EMT.
- B. As part of the State approved basic scope of practice, an Paramedic student or an accredited Paramedic, as part of the organized emergency medical services system in the region, while caring for patients in a hospital as part of his/her training or continuing education under direct supervision of a physician, registered nurse, or physician assistant, or while at the scene of a medical emergency or during

transport, or during interfacility transfer, may perform the following procedures or administer the following medications in accordance with the written policies and procedures of the Agency:

1. Perform defibrillation.
2. Perform synchronized cardioversion.
3. Visualize the airway by use of the laryngoscope and remove foreign body(ies) with forceps.
4. Perform pulmonary ventilation by use of lower airway multi-lumen adjuncts, the esophageal airway, stomal intubation, and adult oral endotracheal intubation.
5. Institute intravenous (IV) catheters, saline locks, needles, or other cannulae (IV lines) in peripheral veins; and monitor and administer medications through pre-existing vascular access.
6. Administer intravenous glucose solutions or isotonic balanced salt solutions, including Ringer's lactate solution.
7. Obtain venous blood samples.
8. Use glucose-measuring device.
9. Utilize Valsalva's maneuver.
10. Perform needle cricothyrotomy.
11. Perform needle thoracostomy.
12. Monitor thoracostomy tubes
13. Monitor and adjust IV solutions containing potassium equal to or less than 20 mEq/L.
14. Administer approved medications by the following routes: intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous, inhalation, transcutaneous, rectal, sublingual, endotracheal, oral or topical.
15. Administer, using prepackaged products when available, the following medications:
 - a. 25% and 50% Dextrose
 - b. Activated Charcoal
 - c. Adenosine
 - d. Aerosolized or Nebulized beta-2 specific bronchodilators;

- e. Aspirin
- f. Atropine Sulfate
- g. Calcium Chloride
- h. Diazepam
- i. Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride
- j. Dopamine Hydrochloride
- k. Epinephrine
- l. Furosemide
- m. Glucagon
- n. Midazolam
- o. Lidocaine Hydrochloride
- p. Morphine Sulfate
- q. Naloxone Hydrochloride
- r. Nitroglycerine Preparation
- s. Pralidoxime Chloride
- t. Sodium Bicarbonate

- C. As part of the State approved expanded scope of practice, a Paramedic student or an accredited Paramedic, as part of the organized emergency medical services system in the region, while caring for patients in a hospital as part of his/her training or continuing education under direct supervision of a physician, registered nurse, or physician assistant, or while at the scene of a medical emergency or during transport, or during interfacility transfer, may perform the following procedures or administer the following medications in accordance with the written policies and procedures of the Agency:
- a. Perform pediatric oral endotracheal intubation.
 - b. Perform intraosseous infusion and administer via intraosseous lines all medications listed for administration by IV.
 - c. Perform transcutaneous pacing
 - d. Intravenous infusion of Heparin and Nitroglycerine – (Inter-Facility Transfer only – requires prior approval pursuant to MVEMSA Policy #552.62)
 - e. CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure)

- D. Base Hospital Physicians may order any medication or procedure within the local paramedic scope of practice for any patient condition regardless of the treatment protocols.
- E. Any skill that is not identified in this policy shall not be performed by paramedics, or paramedic students, even if they are directly supervised by a physician or registered nurse, except as specified in the Altered Standard of Care Pre-Planning Guide (MVEMSA Policy 853.00) during a declared emergency and when Altered Standard of Care orders have been issued by the EMS Agency Medical Director and MHOAC.