

APPROVED: SIGNATURE ON FILE IN EMS OFFICE  
Executive Director

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Medical Director

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**EMS AIRCRAFT ON-LINE MEDICAL CONTROL**

I. AUTHORITY

Division 2.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, Section 1797.220, California Code of Regulations, Title 22., Prehospital Emergency Medical Services, Chapter 8., Prehospital EMS Aircraft Regulations, Title 21, Public Works Chapter 2.5 Division of Aeronautics (Department of Transportation), Public Utilities Code Section 21662.1., and Federal Aviation Regulations

II. DEFINITIONS

Refer to the "EMS Aircraft Policy Definitions" for definitions of terms in this policy.

III. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish standards for on-line medical control for patients transported via EMS Aircraft from a non-acute care facility setting.

IV. POLICY

A. ON-LINE MEDICAL CONTROL

1. On-line medical control for the scene of a medical emergency where both ground and EMS Aircraft personnel are present shall be conducted by the base hospital contacted by the ground unit(s) until such time as the ALS ground personnel have transferred care of the patient to the EMS Aircraft crew.
2. On-line Medical control for patient care shall transfer to the base hospital selected by the EMS Aircraft crew at the time the EMS Aircraft crew assumes care of the patient.
3. The flight crew shall notify the receiving facility of the patient's condition and the estimated time of arrival. In the event that the air medical crew is unable to notify the receiving facility, the EMS aircraft base hospital shall provide notification.

4. Ground ALS personnel may transfer a patient to the flight crew of an Aircraft with lower level of care capabilities when it is determined that rapid transport is a prime therapeutic intervention for the patient.
  - a. If EMS Aircraft personnel are less medically qualified than ground personnel, the base hospital will determine whether or not the EMS Aircraft will transport the patient.
  - b. If base hospital contact is impossible, the highest medically qualified person on scene will decide whether the EMS aircraft will transport the patient.

---END OF POLICY 444.00---