

TITLE: Trauma Mutual Aid and Coordination with Neighboring Systems

APPROVED: _____
Executive Director

Medical Director

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01/01/2004
SUPERSEDES: _____
REVISED: _____
REVIEW DATE: 01/01/2009
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TRAUMA MUTUAL AID AND COORDINATION WITH NEIGHBORING SYSTEMS

I. AUTHORITY

Division 2.5, California Health and Safety Code, Sections 1798.162, 1798.163, 1798.170
California Code of Regulations Section 100255.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. "Service area" means that geographic area defined by the local EMS agency in its trauma care system plan as the area served by a designated trauma center.

III. PURPOSE

To ensure that major trauma patients are treated at an appropriate facility, regardless of geopolitical boundaries and to facilitate coordination with neighboring systems.

IV. POLICY

A. Extraneous factors, such as geopolitical boundaries, will not be considered in the development of service areas. Mountain-Valley EMS Agency will coordinate its trauma care system with those in neighboring EMS systems - both in California and in other states - in order to ensure that patients are transported to the closest appropriate facility. Written mutual aid agreements will be executed as necessary to ensure coordination with neighboring systems.

1. Mountain-Valley EMS Agency will maintain contact with neighboring EMS agencies in order to monitor the status of trauma care systems in surrounding jurisdictions.
2. Where it appears that a service area within the Mountain-Valley EMS region is closer to a designated trauma center in another EMS system, Mountain-Valley EMS Agency staff will contact the appropriate EMS agency to seek an appropriate trauma service area boundary. This will include trauma centers, which are outside of California.
3. Where it appears that patients in another EMS system are closer to the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency designated trauma center, Mountain-Valley EMS Agency will contact the appropriate EMS agency.

B. Where patients from the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency region are transported to a trauma center in another EMS system, Mountain-Valley EMS Agency will seek

patient information which is equivalent to that provided by the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency.

- C. Where patients from another EMS system are transported to a Mountain-Valley EMS Agency designated trauma center, Mountain-Valley EMS Agency will attempt to provide patient information which is equivalent to that provided by that system's designated trauma center.
- D. Hospital and ambulance providers within the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency region are encouraged to cooperate with other EMS agencies in data collection and evaluation efforts of patients who are served by the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency's system.