

Tuolumne County Emergency Medical Services Agency
EMS System Policies and Procedures

POLICY: TISSUE PLASMINOGEN ACTIVATOR INFUSIONS

#552.93

Creation Date: _____

Medical Director: Kimberly Freeman, M.D.; signature of file

Revision Date: _____

EMS Coordinator: Clarence Teem, M.S., EMT-P; signature of file

Review Date: _____

I. AUTHORITY:

Division 2.5, Health and Safety Code, § 1797.220

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 4, Article 1, § 100145

II. PURPOSE:

To provide a mechanism for paramedics to be permitted to monitor pre-existing infusions of Tissue Plasminogen Activator (tPA) during interfacility transports.

III. POLICY:

- A. Only those paramedics who have successfully completed the training program approved by the Tuolumne County EMS Agency Medical Director on pre-existing infusions of tPA will be permitted to monitor them during interfacility transports.
- B. Only those ALS ambulance providers approved by the Tuolumne County EMS Agency Medical Director will be permitted to provide the service of pre-existing infusions of tPA during interfacility transports.
- C. Patients who are candidates for paramedic transport will have pre-existing infusions of tPA in peripheral or central IV lines. Prehospital personnel will not initiate tPA infusions.

IV. PROCEDURE:

- A. All patients will be maintained on a cardiac monitor and a non-invasive blood pressure monitor.
- B. The paramedic shall receive the transferring orders from the transferring physician prior to leaving the sending hospital, including a telephone number where the transferring and/or base hospital physician can be reached during the patient transport. Transferring physicians must be aware of the general scope of practice of paramedics. The written orders must include the transfusion rate.
- C. Regulation of the infusion rate will be within the parameters defined by the transferring physician.
- D. Vital signs will be monitored and documented every 15 minutes and immediately if there is any change in patient status.

E. The infusion shall be discontinued and Base Hospital Physician shall be contacted if:

1. Elevated BP: above 180 systolic or above 110 diastolic
2. Onset of severe headache/uncontrolled vomiting
3. Acute mental status change/seizure
4. Observed bleeding/hematemesis/epistaxis

V. CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (CQI):

All calls will be audited by the provider agency CQI process. Audits will assess compliance with physician orders and Tuolumne County EMS Agency policies, including base hospital contact in emergency situations. Reports will be sent to the EMS Agency as requested.