

Tuolumne County Emergency Medical Services Agency

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MEMORANDUM

To: All Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), Tuolumne County

From: Director, Tuolumne County EMS Agency

Date: April 15, 2024

Subject: Authorization to Administer Acetylsalicylic Acid (ASA) for Chest Pain Management

In accordance with Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, §100063 (b)(6)(A) of the California Code of Regulations, this memo serves to authorize all Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) operating within Tuolumne County to administer acetylsalicylic acid (ASA) to patients experiencing chest pain, under specific conditions and protocols as detailed below.

Scope and Limitations:

- 1. **Training and Competency:** Prior to administering ASA, all EMTs must undergo specific training regarding the proper indications, contraindications, dosage, and side effects associated with ASA. Continuous education will be provided to ensure all personnel remain competent in this practice. Training shall not be less than one hour.
- 2. **Indication for Use:** EMTs may administer ASA to patients exhibiting symptoms of chest pain suggestive of an acute coronary syndrome.
- 3. **Dosage and Administration:** The standard dosage is 324 mg of non-enteric coated, chewable ASA. The patient should chew the ASA to ensure rapid absorption.
- 4. **Contraindications:** Before administration, EMTs must confirm that the patient has no known allergy to ASA, no active gastrointestinal bleeding, and no history of ASA-induced asthma. EMTs must also ensure that there are no other contraindications as per patient's known medical history.
- 5. **Protocol Compliance:** EMTs must follow all local protocols for ASA administration, including patient assessment, documentation, and communication with receiving medical facilities.

Implementation:

This authorization is effective immediately and will be in place until the end of public comment on edited treatment guidelines. Compliance with this directive and its effective implementation will be regularly monitored through audits of patient care reports and feedback from healthcare facilities. It is the responsibility of each EMT to adhere strictly to the outlined protocols and ensure that they are fully prepared to execute this added scope of practice safely and effectively.

For any questions or further clarification, please contact the Tuolumne County EMS Agency office directly.

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