

Tuolumne County Emergency Medical Services Agency
EMS System Policies and Procedures

Policy: **Paramedic Scope of Practice**

#256.00

Medical Director:



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EMS Coordinator:



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I. AUTHORITY

Division 2.5, California Health and Safety Code, Sections 1797.172; 1797.185; 1797.206; 1797.214; 1797.218; 1797.220 and; 1797.221. Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Sections 100144 and 100146.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Agency" means the Tuolumne County Emergency Medical Services Agency.
- B. "Emergency Medical Technician" or "EMT" means a person who has successfully completed a basic EMT course which meets the requirements of Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 2, has passed all required tests, and who has been certified by the Agency Medical Director.
- C. "Advanced Emergency Medical Technician" or "AEMT" means a person who has successfully completed an AEMT training course which meets the requirements of Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3, has passed all required tests, and who has been certified and accredited by the Agency Medical Director as an AEMT.
- D. "Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic" or "EMT-P" or "Paramedic" or "Mobile Intensive Care Paramedic" means a person who is educated and trained in all elements of prehospital advanced life support, who has passed all required tests, and who has been certified and accredited by the Agency Medical Director as an EMT-P.

III. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define the Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic scope of practice approved by the Agency Medical Director for use within the Tuolumne County EMS System.

IV. POLICY

- A. An EMT-P may perform any activity identified in the scope of practice of an EMT or any activity identified in the scope of practice of an AEMT.
- B. As part of the State approved basic scope of practice, an EMT-P student or an accredited EMT-P, as part of the organized emergency medical services system in the County, 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 inter-facility 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 the esophageal airway and endotracheal tube and perform 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 devices.
 9. Perform Valsalva's maneuver.
 10. Perform needle cricothyrotomy.
 11. Perform needle thoracostomy.
 12. Monitor thoracostomy tubes
 13. Monitor IV solutions containing potassium equal to or less than 20 mEq/L.
 14. Administer, using prepackaged products when available, the following medications by the routes specified in ALS treatment protocols:
 - a. 25% and 50% dextrose
 - b. activated charcoal;
 - c. adenosine;
 - d. aerosolized or nebulized beta-2 specific bronchodilators;
 - e. amiodarone;
 - f. aspirin;
 - g. atropine sulfate;
 - h. calcium chloride;
 - i. diphenhydramine hydrochloride;
 - j. dopamine hydrochloride;

- k. epinephrine;
- l. furosemide;
- m. glucagon;
- n. ipratropium bromide;
- o. lidocaine hydrochloride;
- p. magnesium sulfate;
- q. midazolam;
- r. morphine sulfate;
- s. naloxone hydrochloride;
- t. nitroglycerine preparation - Sub-lingual, oral spray or paste;
- u. sodium bicarbonate;

C. As part of the State approved expanded scope of practice, an accredited EMT-P, as part of the organized emergency medical services system in the County, 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 inter-facility transfer, may perform the following procedures or administer the following medications in accordance with the written policies and procedures of the Agency:

- 1. Perform pediatric oral endotracheal intubation.
- 2. Perform King Airway insertion.
- 3. Perform intraosseous access.
- 4. Perform nasogastric intubation and gastric suction.
- 5. Perform Transcutaneous Cardiac Pacing
- 6. Perform Continuous Positive Airway Pressure.
- 7. Monitor and adjust heparin drips during inter-facility transfer.
- 8. Monitor and adjust nitroglycerine drips during inter-facility transfer.
- 9. Monitor amiodarone drips during inter-facility transfer.
- 10. Monitor magnesium sulfate drips during inter-facility transfer.
- 11. Monitor potassium chloride drips, up to 40 mEq per liter during inter-facility transfer.
- 12. Administer, using prepackaged products when available, the following medications by the routes specified:
 - a. Verapamil
 - b. Oxytocin
 - c. Ondansetron
 - d. Fentanyl Citrate