

SUBJECT: Scope of Practice of EMT-Paramedic in San Diego County

Date: 07/01/2014

- I. **Authority:** Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.172 and 1798.
- II. **Purpose:** To identify the scope of practice of Paramedics in San Diego County.
- III. **Policy:**
 - A. A Paramedic may perform any activity identified in the scope of practice of an EMT- 1 in Chapter 2 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 9, Title 22.
 - B. A Paramedic student, or a currently licensed Paramedic affiliated with an approved Paramedic service provider, while caring for patients in a hospital as part of his/her training or continuing education, under the direct supervision of a physician, registered nurse, or physician's assistant, or while at the scene of a medical emergency or during transport, or during interfacility transfer, may, in accordance with the County of San Diego Emergency Medical Services Branch (EMS) Policies, Procedures and Protocols, perform the following procedures and administer the following medications:
 1. Utilize electrocardiographic devices and monitor electrocardiograms, including 12-lead electrocardiograms (ECG).
 2. Perform defibrillation, synchronized cardioversion and external cardiac pacing.
 3. Visualize the airway by use of the laryngoscope and remove foreign body(ies) with forceps.
 4. Perform pulmonary ventilation by use of the lower airway multi-lumen adjuncts (esophageal tracheal airway device [ETAD]),perilaryngeal airways, stomal intubations and oral endotracheal intubation (adult and pediatric*).
 5. Utilize mechanical ventilation devices for continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP).
 6. Institute intravenous (IV) catheters, needles or other cannulae (IV lines) in

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peripheral veins, institute saline locks, and monitor and administer medications through pre-existing vascular access.

7. Administer intravenous glucose solutions or isotonic salt solutions.
8. Obtain venous blood samples.
9. Use laboratory devices for pre-hospital screening to measure lab values including: blood glucose monitors, capnometry, capnography, and carbon monoxide monitors.
10. Perform Valsalva maneuver.
11. Perform nasogastric intubation and gastric suction.
12. Perform needle thoracostomy.
13. Monitor thoracostomy tubes.
14. Perform intraosseous needle placement
15. Monitor, adjust and maintain IV solutions containing Potassium equal to or less than 40mEq/L.
16. Administer, using prepackaged products when available, the following medications utilizing the listed routes: intravenous, intramuscular, intraosseous, subcutaneous, transcutaneous, rectal, sublingual, endotracheal, oral topical or intranasal.
 - a. 25% and 50% dextrose;
 - b. Activated charcoal;
 - c. Adenosine;
 - d. Albuterol;
 - e. Amiodarone;
 - f. Aspirin;
 - g. Atropine Sulfate

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- h. Atrovent (ipratropium bromide);
- i. Calcium chloride;
- j. Diphenhydramine;
- k. Dopamine hydrochloride;
- l. Epinephrine;
- m. Glucagon;
- n. Lidocaine hydrochloride;
- o. Midazolam;
- p. Morphine sulfate;
- q. Naloxone hydrochloride;
- r. Nitroglycerine preparations (excluding IV);
- s. Ondansetron;
- t. Sodium bicarbonate;
- u. Pralidoxime chloride (2 PAM Chloride) –requires completion of specialized training.
- v. Diazepam; –requires completion of specialized training.

(Note: Items identified with an asterisk are included as a local optional paramedic intervention, pursuant to CCR Title 22, Div 9, Sec 100146,c, 2)*

17. Perform any prehospital emergency medical care treatment procedure(s) or administer any medication(s) on a trial basis when approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency. Study procedure shall be as defined in Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4 of the California Code of Regulations.

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