



County of San Diego

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

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Maternal, Child and Family Health Services
Public Health Laboratory
PH Nursing/Border Health
TB Control & Refugee Health
Vital Records

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June 25, 2009

To EMS Participants

STROKE SYSTEM OF CARE IMPLEMENTATION

Beginning July 1, 2009 at 7 a.m. the County of San Diego Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Policy S-461, Destination of Acute Stroke Patient, will be fully effective. Patients with symptoms of an acute stroke with symptom onset in the previous three (3) hours will be taken to one of the hospitals identified below. These hospitals have met the requirements in Policy S-461 and have been recognized to receive 9-1-1 patients with symptoms of acute stroke.

Alvarado Hospital Medical Center
Kaiser Foundation Hospital
Palomar Medical Center
Pomerado Hospital
Scripps Encinitas Hospital
Scripps Memorial La Jolla
Scripps Mercy Chula Vista
Scripps Mercy San Diego Hospital

Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center
Sharp Coronado Hospital
Sharp Grossmont Hospital
Sharp Memorial Hospital
Tri-City Medical Center
UCSD Thornton Hospital
UCSD Hillcrest Medical Center

Naval Medical Center San Diego will be reviewed in the near future and added to the above list following review.

Beginning July 1 2009 hospitals will identify whether they are open or closed to receive acute stroke patients in the column "Other 1" in the QA Net Quality Collector System (QCS). If "closed" to acute stroke patients, the notation "No Neuro" should be entered in the hospital's row in the "Other 1" column. Acceptable reasons for closure would be lack of CT scanning capability or inability to have evaluation of a stroke patient by the stroke team. Please note that if a hospital is down to CT, they must also be down to stroke.

Determination of stroke symptoms will be accomplished using the "Prehospital Stroke Scale" in EMS Policy P-104. The Base Hospital will designate the appropriate patients. The Base may designate patients slightly over the 3 hour limit in some cases. Patients with acute stroke symptoms should go to the hospital of choice, unless the additional travel time is 15 minutes or more.

Patients with symptom onset more than three (3) hours previous should go to the hospital of their choice or the closest.

Thank you to everyone who has participated. Should you have any questions, please contact Diane Royer, R.N. at 619.285.6429.

Sincerely,



Bruce E. Haynes, M.D.
Medical Director



Marcelyn Metz
Chief

BEH:kc
Attachments S-461, S-123