



County of San Diego

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SAN DIEGO COUNTY EMS OPERATIONAL TOOLS, PROCEDURES, AND OPTIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Best practices for managing the COVID-19 pandemic are dynamic due to the rapidly evolving situation and changing scientific knowledge. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for [EMS providers](#) and [healthcare personnel](#) are continuously updated. All healthcare personnel should review these recommendations regularly.

Health system metrics indicate system stress related to the COVID-19 pandemic. To mitigate the strain on our EMS delivery system, the EMS Medical Director has implemented multiple tactics. These support the overall strategy of ensuring the EMS delivery system remains robust, flexible, and available to respond to emergencies.

Currently available tools, procedures, and options for the EMS delivery system include:

- [EMS Transfer to Waiting Area Option](#)
- [Assess and Refer Option](#)
- [P-801 Response Mode Option](#)
- [DoD Beneficiary Destination Recommendation](#)
- [California EMSA Emergency Certification, Licensure, and Training Standards](#)
- [Patient Masking Recommendation](#)
- [Non-Patient Passenger Restrictions](#)
- [EMS Treatment Considerations](#)
- [Abbreviated Radio Report Option](#)

The time-limited [ASSESS AND REFER POLICY](#) and the [P-801 WAIVER OPTION](#) will continue until **FEBRUARY 28, 2022**. A 9-1-1 service provider interested in implementing these options shall request authorization via EMSNotifications@sdcounty.ca.gov. As outlined by the policy memos, all agency authorizations require regular reporting to County EMS.

Thank you for continuing to provide outstanding care to our patients.

Respectfully,

Kristi L. Koenig, MD, FACEP, FIFEM, FAEMS, Medical Director
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cc: Eric McDonald, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer
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