I. PURPOSE

To establish a standardized Perilaryngeal Airway Adjunct Skills curriculum and program approval requirements

II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.170, 1797.206, 1797.208, 1797.214, and 1797.218.

III. DEFINITION(S)

Perilaryngeal Airway Adjuncts (PAA): A novel cuffed airway device to include:

1. Esophageal Tracheal Airway Devices (ETADs)
2. Supraglottic Airway Devices

IV. POLICY

A. County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services (CoSD EMS) shall approve Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) PAA Skills training programs prior to the program being offered. To receive program approval, requesting training agencies and Continuing Education (CE) providers must apply for approval to CoSD EMS and submit all materials listed in the sections below.

B. Program approval or disapproval shall be made in writing by CoSD EMS to the requesting training program within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 30 days after receipt of all required documentation.

C. All approved EMT PAA Skills training programs shall be subject to periodic review, including, but not limited to:

1. Periodic review of all program materials
2. Periodic on-site evaluation by CoSD EMS
San Diego County Emergency Medical Services Office
Policy / Procedure / Protocol

D. Noncompliance with any criterion required for program approval, use of any unqualified teaching personnel, or noncompliance with any other applicable provision of the above may result in withdrawal, suspension, or revocation of program approval by CoSD EMS.

V. PROCEDURES

The requesting training agency or CE provider shall submit to CoSD EMS documentation of current program approval, and also submit the following materials in order to be considered for PAA program approval:

A. Curriculum course outline and objectives for the seven hour PAA training program, to include:

1. Anatomy and physiology of the respiratory system.
2. Assessment of the respiratory system.
3. Review of basic airway management techniques, which includes manual and mechanical.
4. The role of the PAA in the sequence of airway control.
5. Indications and contraindications of the PAA.
6. The role of pre-oxygenation in preparation for the PAA.
7. PAA device insertion and assessment of placement.
8. Methods for prevention of basic skills deterioration.
9. Alternative to the PAA.

Note: If only one device is taught, course must be a minimum of five hours. If prior training for one device has been completed, an additional two hour device-specific training can be completed. If more than one device is being taught in a single session, two hours per additional device must be added to the minimum five hour primary course for a single device.

B. A standardized competency-based written and skills examination for airway management that shall include the use of basic airway equipment and techniques and use of the PAA.

C. List of equipment to be used for skills training.

D. Documentation of access to equipment and staff for skills training in sufficient quantities to meet 1:10 teacher/student ratio.