I. PURPOSE

To approve Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) service agencies in San Diego County.

II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.204, 1797.218, 1797.220, and 1798.

III. DEFINITION(S)

AEMT Unit: An AEMT emergency response vehicle utilized by a designated AEMT service provider that is staffed by at least one AEMT.

IV. POLICY

A. AEMT units shall be equipped with standardized Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) service provider inventory as specified in the County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services (CoSD EMS) policies. Units shall also be equipped with approved AEMT equipment and supplies.

B. The closest, most appropriate, available Advanced Life Support (ALS) transporting unit shall be dispatched simultaneously with the AEMT unit if the response meets established criteria for dispatch of an ALS unit.

C. If AEMT care is initiated and there is a delay in response of an ALS transporting unit, the AEMT shall proceed with transport of the patient to the hospital if it is medically in the best interest of the patient.
D. Each AEMT unit will be assigned to a Base Hospital for medical control by the local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agency.

E. Approved AEMT service provider agencies shall have a current service provider agreement with CoSD EMS.

V. PROCEDURES

A. Application/Approval Process
Application for use of AEMT unit(s) shall be submitted in writing to the CoSD EMS Medical Director and shall include:
1. Identification, location, and average response times of the ALS transporting unit assigned to the geographical area
2. Identification, location, and average response times of the proposed AEMT unit(s)
3. Description of the proposed AEMT unit staffing to include level(s) of training
4. A statement indicating what AEMT specific equipment (if any) will be included in the inventory of the unit

B. Operational Requirements
When the AEMT unit arrives on scene prior to the ALS transporting unit, the AEMT shall:
1. Assess and treat the patient.
2. If the AEMT does not accompany the patient to the hospital, transfer of care and information to the paramedic assuming care of the patient shall occur at the earliest, most appropriate time to facilitate continuity of care and prevent any delay in care.
3. AEMTs shall submit completed prehospital patient records in accordance with Policy S-601 “Documentation Standards and Transferral of Prehospital Care Record (PCR) Information”.

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