

 <p>County of San Diego EMS A Division of San Diego County Fire</p>	COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE	CP-901
	COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC SCOPE OF PRACTICE	
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I. PURPOSE

To define the scope of practice of community paramedics.

II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.107, 1830, and 1831. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 5, Section 100192.

III. DEFINITION(S)

Community Paramedic: A paramedic licensed under Division 2.5 of the Health and Safety Code (HSC) who has:

1. completed the curriculum for community paramedic training,
2. received certification in one or more of the community paramedic program specialties described in Section 1815 of the HSC, and
3. is accredited to provide community paramedic services by CoSD EMS as a part of an approved community paramedic program.

IV. POLICY

- A.** During a patient encounter, a community paramedic shall use the standard paramedic scope of practice as described in P-401: Paramedic Scope of Practice, approved CoSD EMS local optional scope, and trial study scope if participating in an approved pilot program. In addition, a community paramedic shall adhere to the CoSD EMS community-paramedicine-specific protocols that are relevant to his/her training level.
1. A paramedic who has only completed a triage to alternate destination specialty course may not utilize the expanded community paramedic scope of practice and must adhere to the standard P-401 scope of practice while transporting a patient to an approved facility.
 2. A paramedic who has completed training in multiple community paramedicine and triage to alternate destination specialties may use all applicable scopes of practice simultaneously as permitted by his/her agency in addition to the standard P-401 scope of practice.
 3. At no time shall a community paramedic respond to a 9-1-1 call unless it is related to the delivery of specific community paramedicine services. In this case, other paramedics working in a 9-1-1 capacity shall be the primary medical caregivers until a treatment plan

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can be established following patient stabilization. A community paramedic is permitted to be the primary medical response to a 9-1-1 call only if that patient is identified and approved in an agency's treatment plan for case management.

- B.** A community paramedic may only provide community paramedicine services while working specifically in that role during a designed shift with an approved agency. A community paramedic is restricted to the standard P-401 policy while working solely in the 9-1-1 system, during an interfacility transport, during special assignments, during special events, or while working in any other capacity that is not solely related to community paramedicine.
- C.** A community paramedic shall revert to the standard P-401 scope of practice if a patient is found to need emergent medical care during a community paramedicine contact. A standard ALS unit working in the 9-1-1 system shall take over medical care once on scene.