

 COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	SYSTEMS		S-020
	ST-ELEVATION MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION CRITICAL CARE SYSTEM DESIGNATION		
	Date: 7/1/2025		Page 1 of 3

I. PURPOSE

To establish standards for the designation of an acute care hospital as an ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) Receiving Center

II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.67, 1798, and 1798.170; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 6.2, ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction Critical Care System.

III. POLICY

Hospital requirements for County of San Diego (CoSD) STEMI Receiving Center designation:

- A.** Currently licensed as a general acute care hospital currently approved as an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) receiving hospital receiving hospital;
- B.** Comply with all requirements listed in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 6.2, ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction Critical Care System;
- C.** Enter into an agreement with County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services (CoSD EMS) to perform as a STEMI Receiving Center;
- D.** Meet the criteria set forth in the agreement and demonstrate a continuous ability and commitment to comply with policies, protocols, and procedures developed by CoSD EMS;
- E.** Maintain licensure as a Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory (Cath Lab) available 24 hours/day 365 days/year;
- F.** Maintain protocols for triage, diagnosis, and Cath Lab activation following field notification;
- G.** Maintain a single call activation system to directly activate the Cardiac Catheterization Team;
- H.** Establish and maintain a process for treatment and triage of simultaneously arriving STEMI patients;
- I.** Maintain the ability to receive ECGs wirelessly transmitted by prehospital personnel;
- J.** Immediately update CoSD Local Emergency Medical Services Information System (LEMSIS) when there is a change in status regarding the ability to accept STEMI patients.

IV. STAFFING REQUIREMENTS

- A. STEMI Receiving Centers shall have the following designated positions filled:
1. **Medical Director-** A qualified, board-certified physician with sufficient experience and expertise as determined by the hospital credentialing committee that is responsible for the STEMI program, performance improvement, and patient safety programs
 2. **STEMI Program Manager-** A qualified licensed individual designated by the hospital for monitoring and evaluating the care of STEMI patients and coordinating performance improvement and patient safety programs in conjunction with the STEMI Medical Director
- B. **Cardiac Catheterization Team-** The specialty trained health care professionals that perform percutaneous coronary interventions and shall be immediately available upon notification as per Sections 1797.103 and 1797.176, California State Health and Safety Code.
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V. DATA MANAGEMENT

Designated STEMI Receiving Centers shall:

- A. Participate in the STEMI data collection process by submitting required data to CoSD EMS via the LEMSIS STEMI Patient Data Registry;
 - B. Submit all data elements included in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 6.2, Section 100150.01, "Data Management";
 - C. Submit Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) registry elements;
 - D. Collect additional data as required by CoSD EMS and/or Cardiac Advisory Committee (CAC).
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VI. CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- A. STEMI Receiving Centers shall develop an on-going quality improvement program which monitors all aspects of treatment and management of suspected STEMI patients and identifies areas for improvement. The program at a minimum must:
1. Review all STEMI-related deaths, major complications, and transfers
 2. Actively participate in CoSD CAC quarterly meetings
 3. Participate in the CoSD EMS quality improvement process
- B. CoSD EMS may confirm availability of the services and conduct on-site visits to ensure compliance with established criteria.
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VII. DESIGNATION PROCESS

**San Diego County Emergency Medical Services Office
Policy / Procedure / Protocol**

- A.** The CoSD EMS develops and distributes an application for designation as a STEMI Receiving Center.
- B.** The CoSD EMS evaluates applications, including an independent review process and on-site evaluation.
- C.** CoSD EMS recommends to the Board of Supervisors or designee the SRC designation in accordance with established County policies and state regulations.
- D.** The STEMI Receiving Center designation will be a non-competitive process based on past performance of the acute care hospital's emergency department, cardiac catheterization laboratory, staff, and on-call interventionalists and on its ability to provide required services and participation in the performance improvement process.
- E.** The designation as a STEMI Receiving Center is specific to the cardiac catheterization laboratory's location and is not transferable.