

Chapter: COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
Key Words: Policy/Procedure/Protocol

SUBJECT: Physician on Scene

POLICY NO: P-403

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DATE: July 1, 2014

AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1798 and 1798.6.

I. PURPOSE

To establish a mechanism for prehospital patient care when a Physician on scene offers assistance to the Paramedic

II. POLICY

The Paramedic may only follow orders from a Base Hospital Physician or authorized Registered Nurse (RN) (Mobile Intensive Care Nurse (MICN)).

III. PROCEDURES

- A.** Paramedics to facilitate immediate consultation with Base Hospital Physician by providing radio or phone contact.
- B.** Base Hospital Physician shall relay information of County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services (CoSD EMS) Policy P-403A (Attachment A) "Note to Physician on Involvement with EMT-Paramedics" to Physician on scene.
- C.** If Physician on scene chooses to take total responsibility for the patient:
 - 1. Base Hospital Physician shall request proof of State of California licensure to be shown to Paramedics.
 - 2. Base Hospital Physician must approve or deny a Physician on scene's request to take total responsibility for patient.
 - 3. The Paramedic may assist the Physician on scene within their scope of practice under the direction of the Base Hospital Physician.
 - 4. Drugs and equipment may be made available for the Physician's on scene use.

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D. The Paramedic/MICN shall obtain State of California licensure and document Physician on scene's involvement on the patient care record:

1. Physician's name
2. State of California Physician and Surgeon's License or type of license
3. License number
4. License expiration date

E. A Physician with an existing patient physician relationship:

1. Physician may care for their patient.
2. Paramedics may use skills within their scope of practice to assist Physicians accompanying their own patients. Those skills and medications not in the Paramedic scope of practice (see CoSD EMS Policy P-401 "Paramedic Scope of Practice") will be administered by the Physician. Any concerns about scope of practice or other issues shall be referred to the Base Hospital Physician.

F. All other independent practitioners must have Base Hospital Physician approval.

G. In the event that any conflict arises regarding the delivery of patient care, CoSD EMS personnel shall contact the Base Hospital Physician immediately. The Base Hospital Physician has final authority over medical care to be provided by CoSD EMS personnel.

IV. ATTACHMENTS

A. P-403A (Attachment A): Note to Physician on Involvement with EMT-Paramedics