

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

SUBJECT: Triage to Appropriate Facility

POLICY NO: S-407

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DATE: July 1, 2007

AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.88 and 1798.

I. PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for transportation of patients

II. POLICY

- A.** Patients will be transported from the scene of the incident to the most accessible and appropriate facility staffed, equipped, and prepared to administer care appropriate to the needs of the patient.
- B.** Trauma center candidates who meet trauma triage criteria will be transported to the most appropriate trauma center.
- C.** Patients who are assessed as having a ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) by using a 12-Lead Electrocardiogram (EKG) shall be transported to the appropriate STEMI Receiving Center (SRC).
- D.** Transport to other than the most appropriate facility will be ordered if it is in the best interest of the patient based on the medical judgment of the Base Hospital.
- E.** If facility of preference requested by a patient or patient's adult family member is beyond a reasonable distance from the incident scene, or is not medically in the best interest of the patient, refer to County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services (CoSD EMS) Policy P-412 "Prehospital Treatment and Transportation of Adults – Refusal of Care or Suggested Destination, Release".

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- F.** Prehospital personnel accompanying patient(s) to a receiving facility will remain with the patient(s) until medical management is assumed by the receiving facility's medical staff and will provide staff with a verbal report.

- G.** In the event that there is a delay in the turnover of the patient to the receiving facility medical staff, subsequent medical interventions, once at a facility, will be at the discretion of the receiving facility.

- H.** The EMS Prehospital Patient Record (PPR), including field cardiac rhythm strips, will be left with the patient. This is particularly important for those patients who are in acute status, STEMI patients, or are major trauma victims.