

PREHOSPITAL POLICY

Policy Reference No: 107
Effective Date: 3/1/97
Supersedes: Section 2, Page 38-39

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR USE OF OUT-OF-COUNTY PARAMEDICS DURING
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

I. HISTORICAL:

- A. It is recognized that fire departments and ambulance services in California operate under mutual aid agreements that require them to move between counties for fire and rescue operations.
- B. Coordination of Emergency Medical Services and certification of EMT-I and EMT-II personnel are the responsibility of the local EMS Agency.
- C. Paramedics in California are licensed by the State EMS Authority at the basic scope of practice and accredited at the County level.

II. PURPOSE:

- A. These guidelines are developed to allow a paramedic, operating during a mutual aid assignment, who is licensed in California and accredited by a County EMS Agency to practice paramedic level skills in another County during emergency operations.
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County Health Officer

Date

Executive Director, Emergency Medical Services Agency

Date

Medical Director, Emergency Medical Services Agency

Date

- B. Out-of-county paramedics may perform paramedic skills approved by their County of origin until transfer of that patient to a locally accredited paramedic.
- C. These guidelines are not intended to replace existing EMS or circumvent the established response of EMS in the local County.

III. GUIDELINES:

- A. Under the authority of State Regulations, a paramedic functioning in their capacity may render Advanced Life Support care during emergency operations as long as the following conditions are met:
 - 1. The paramedic is currently licensed by the State of California and is accredited by a County EMS Agency within California.
 - 2. The paramedic has access to Advanced Life Support equipment as required by their county of origin.
 - 3. The paramedic does not exceed the scope of practice or medical control policies from their county of origin.
 - 4. The paramedic has received permission from their accrediting County EMS Agency to perform paramedic level skills during out-of-county mutual aid responses. San Luis Obispo County accredited paramedics may function in other Counties during a mutual aid response or during a patient transfer.
 - 5. The paramedic receives permission from the incident commander or his or her designee to perform the ALS procedures.
 - 6. The incident commander shall assure that the responding ambulance is notified that paramedic level care is being initiated by an out-of-county paramedic.
 - 7. The paramedic remains with the patient until transfer of care can be accomplished to a local County accredited paramedic.
 - 8. Upon arrival of a locally accredited paramedic, responsibility shall be transferred to the local paramedic.
 - 9. The paramedic shall complete their local EMS run report and forward a copy to the local EMS Agency within 48 hours of incident.