

PREHOSPITAL POLICY

Policy Reference No: 121  
Effective Date: 5/1/98  
Supersedes: N/A

SUBJECT: ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SPECIAL USE MEDIC

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I. PURPOSE:

To establish policy for the use of paramedics and paramedic teams in specialized responses at the scene of a special event.

II. AUTHORITY:

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Social Security, Division 9, Prehospital Emergency Medical Services, Article 2, General Provisions.

III. POLICY:

A. Certified accredited paramedics shall use this policy while at the scene of a special event and while performing emergency medical services at said special event.

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County Health Officer

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Date

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Executive Director, Emergency Medical Services Agency

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Date

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Medical Director, Emergency Medical Services Agency

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Date

- B. Paramedic personnel shall utilize ALS principles and skills as indicated in this protocol.
- C. Advanced Life Support (ALS) providers shall use this policy to guide them in creating a Special Use Medic Program to be used while servicing special events.

#### IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. The ALS Special Use Medic is an optional prehospital advanced life support program administered by the San Luis Obispo County Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA) through authorized San Luis Obispo County ALS providers. The program functions as an extension to State and County ALS rules, regulations, policies, protocols, and operates under medical control and authority of the EMSA Medical Director.
- B. The primary purpose of the ALS Special Use Medic Program is to provide expedient ALS response and care to EMS incidents that may occur at special events within San Luis Obispo County prior to ALS transport unit scene arrival at an incident location within the special event area. The ALS Special Use Medic Program is to be provided by an authorized ALS provider at special events where the area, roadways, crowds, or access difficulty will delay conventional ALS ambulance or ALS first responder response time to an incident within the special event area.
- C. The ALS Special Use Medic Program entails the utilization of specially equipped and trained paramedic(s) with State licensure and local accreditation, employed by a San Luis Obispo County ALS provider.
- D. The ALS Special Use Medic Program shall be inclusive of, but not limited to, the use of bicycles (mountain bikes), all terrain vehicles, motorcycles, med-carts, and horseback. The San Luis Obispo EMSA must authorize any response mechanism not listed in this paragraph prior to use.
- E. The ALS Special Use Medic provider shall be responsible to provide all equipment and supplies in accordance with these policies that are mechanically sound, properly configured, and safe to operate within the ALS Special Use Medic role. The ALS Special Use Medic Program shall only be operated in accordance with these policies by a two-member team, including one member at EMT-I or paramedic level with required ALS Special Use Medic training and an approved response mechanism configured with basic life support supplies and equipment and one member at paramedic level with required ALS Special Use Medic training and an approved response mechanism configured with advanced life support supplies and equipment.
- F. Use of ALS Special Use Medic Program shall not be construed, interpreted or allowed to replace or modify in any way ALS transportation resources required by contract between the County of San Luis Obispo and ALS providers.

#### V. ALS SPECIAL USE MEDIC SCOPE OF PRACTICE

- A. The ALS Special Use Medic is authorized to provide prehospital ALS within the scope of practice allowed by the State of California and the San Luis Obispo County EMSA according to these policies and procedures.
- B. This authorization shall be commensurate with the ALS Special Use Medic ALS supplies and equipment inventory specified in these policies and specially refined for ALS Special Use Medic function.
- C. The ALS Special Use Medic team shall comply with all San Luis Obispo County ALS rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and protocols at all times.
- D. The ALS Special Use Medic paramedic shall coordinate appropriate notification, response, communications, and utilization of local EMS resources.

#### VI. ALS SPECIAL USE MEDIC PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS

- A. A San Luis Obispo ALS provider wishing to conduct an ALS Special Use Medic Program shall provide written documentation to the EMSA. The written documentation shall include a description of the proposed program, ALS Special Use Medic personnel qualifications and training, and a written commitment to comply with ALS Special Use Medic policies and procedures.
- B. To be an ALS Special Use Medic provider all of the following minimum requirements shall be met:
  - 1. Existing paramedic provider authorized by the EMSA;
  - 2. Have and maintain an ALS Special Use Medic training program which complies with the provisions of these policies and procedures;
  - 3. Have and maintain the appropriate equipment and supplies needed to deploy two-person ALS Special Use Medic teams;
  - 4. Have and maintain a quality assurance mechanism for the ALS Special Use Medic Program to ensure proper utilization; and
  - 5. Have and maintain records and reports according to these policies.
  - 6. An authorized ALS Special Use Medic provider shall ensure the ALS Special Use Medic Program is continually operated according to these policies and procedures.
- C. The EMSA may, with good cause, terminate an ALS Special Use Medic Program for non-compliance to these policies and procedures.

## VII. ALS SPECIAL USE MEDIC QUALIFICATIONS, CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING

- A. A minimum of one (1) member of the ALS Special Use Medic Team shall have and maintain active San Luis Obispo County paramedic accreditation. The other member of the team may be an EMT-I or paramedic with active San Luis Obispo County accreditation.
- B. An ALS Special Use Medic Team member shall receive a minimum of two (2) hours training in ALS Special Use Medic policies and procedures, ALS Special Use Medic scope of practice, communications systems and EMS resource utilization before being authorized to operate in an ALS Special Use Medic capacity. The ALS Special Use Medic provider may provide the training.
- C. The ALS Special Use Medic provider shall maintain records of paramedic and EMT-I personnel that have completed ALS Special Use Medic training.

## VIII. ALS SPECIAL USE MEDIC PLANNING AND DEPLOYMENT

- A. The ALS Special Use Medic provider shall ensure appropriate deployment and utilization of ALS Special Use Medic Program.
- B. The ALS Special Use Medic provider shall develop a pre-event plan, based on the specific special event, which defines ALS Special Use Medic staffing, team transportation method to be used, hours of coverage, communications, area resources, incident reporting, and procedures for requesting additional resources. All assigned Special Use Medic personnel shall be provided a briefing in the pre-event plan for the special event.
- C. The ALS Special Use Medic team response mechanism shall only be deployed in a two-mechanism/two-member team configuration.
- D. Non-emergent activity, movement and positioning of an ALS Special Use Medic team shall be at the discretion of the ALS Special Use Medic provider.
- E. An ALS Special Use Medic provider shall only provide the ALS Special Use Medic Program for special events where area crowds, roadways, and general access would significantly delay response time of a conventional ambulance.

## IX. ALS SPECIAL USE MEDIC SCENE OPERATIONS

- A. ALS first responder capacity (meaning the ALS Special Use Medic team) is the first medical unit or first ALS level personnel arriving at scene:
  - 1. In a first responder capacity, the ALS Special Use Medic paramedic is expected to assume patient health care responsibility and/or medical group operations responsibility. If the ALS Special Use Medic team is the first unit arriving at the scene of an emergency incident involving a multi-agency response, the ALS Special Use Medic paramedic would assume incident commander responsibility until a public agency arrives, then the ALS Special Use Medic paramedic would automatically transition into medical group supervisor

responsibility.

2. The ALS Special Use Medic paramedic is expected to establish medical control, complete scene and patient assessment and initiate BLS/ALS patient treatment intervention according to San Luis Obispo County ALS policies, procedures, and protocols, as the patient condition necessitates. The ALS Special Use Medic paramedic is expected to initially bring necessary medical equipment and supplies to the patient for appropriate overall patient care management (avoid making patient contact, then leaving for equipment).
3. The ALS Special Use Medic paramedic continues providing on scene patient care and maintains patient health care authority until an ALS ambulance arrives and the ALS Special Use Medic paramedic transfers patient care responsibility to the ALS ambulance paramedic. The normal focus of the ALS Special Use Medic program is to provide immediate care until an ALS ambulance arrives, transfer of patient care responsibility occurs, and the ALS Special Use Medic team rapidly becomes available for additional responses or use.

#### B. ALS Special Use Medic Backup or Support Capacity

1. ALS Special Use Medic backup or support capacity means that an ALS ambulance paramedic is already on scene and the ALS Special Use Medic team arrives on scene as an additional ALS level resource. In this situation, the ALS Special Use Medic team is to assist with any or all patient health care responsibility or medical group supervisor responsibility at scene.

### X. EMS RESOURCE UTILIZATION

- A. The ALS Special Use Medic team shall be responsible for prudent notification, response and efficient utilization of all EMS resources to be used at the scene of an incident at which the team was the first responder.

### XI. DOUMENTATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. The ALS Special Use Medic provider shall develop a pre-event plan based on the specific special event, which defines ALS Special Use Medic staffing, team transportation method to be used, hours of coverage, communications, area resources, incident reporting, and procedures for requesting additional resources. All assigned Special Use Medic personnel shall be provided a briefing in the pre-event plan for the special event.
- B. The ALS Special Use Medic paramedic shall complete a Patient Care Record for every patient contact.
- C. The ALS Special Use Medic provider shall maintain, at a pre-determined location, a Dataport capable computer for use of the ALS Special Use Medic team. The location of this computer is the discretion of the ALS Special Use Medic provider and will be part of the pre-event briefing.

- D. The ALS Special Use Medic provider shall provide ALS Special Use Medic pre-event plans, related data and/or ALS Special Use Medic program evaluations to the EMSA upon request.

## XII. REQUIRED ALS SPECIAL USE MEDIC EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

- A. The ALS Special Use Medic paramedic and ALS Special Use provider shall be responsible to maintain a complete inventory of required ALS Special Use Medic equipment and supplies as specified in these policies. BLS supplies and equipment shall be configured on one (1) team response mechanism and ALS supplies and equipment shall be configured on one (1) team response mechanism as determined by the ALS Special Use Medic provider. Both team response mechanisms must be staffed and operated together to be in compliance with these policies.
- B. The ALS Special Use Medic paramedic and ALS Special Use Medic provider shall be responsible for the care and maintenance of all ALS Special Use Medic inventory. ALS Special Use Medic inventory shall also be subject to inspection by the EMSA.
- C. The ALS Special Use Medic team shall have, at the minimum, all of the ALS Special Use Medic inventory items listed on Addendum I.