

SUBJECT: INTRAOSSEOUS INFUSION POLICY

I. PURPOSE:

To establish an Advanced Life Support (ALS) protocol and policy for the treatment of the adult and pediatric patient with intraosseous infusion (IO).

II. POLICY:

Certified paramedics, either accredited, or while acting as a candidate for accreditation by the San Luis Obispo County Emergency Medical Services Agency, shall follow this ALS treatment protocol while on duty and rendering medical care.

- A. Paramedic personnel shall utilize ALS principles and skills as indicated in this protocol.
- B. Deviations from this protocol shall be made by only on-duty paramedics only under the direction of an on-duty base station physician.

III. INDICATIONS:

- ~~▪ Tibial plateau location only, and~~
- ~~▪ Unconscious (GCS < 8), and~~
- ~~▪ Patient in extremis, hemodynamically unstable, respiratory arrest/cardiac arrest without peripheral IV access, and~~
- ~~▪ Unable to establish an IV after a total of 3 attempts and EJ evaluation, and~~
- ~~▪ For use only when above criteria are met and hospital arrival time >15 minutes~~

- For use only when the following criteria are met:
 - Unconscious (GCS < 8), and
 - Patient in extremis with hemodynamic instability or respiratory arrest/cardiac arrest, and
 - Unable to establish an IV after a total of 3 attempts and EJ evaluation.
- Tibial plateau location only. [Updated 7/12/07]

IV. CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Tibial or femur fx (consider alternate side)
- Knee replacement or previous IO attempt at site within 24 hrs
- Infection at insertion site
- Inability to locate landmarks
- Hypoglycemic patients needing D50 (unless in cardiac arrest)
- Suspected narcotic overdose patient requiring Narcan (unless in cardiac arrest)

V. QA/QI:

- EMS QA representative for each agency will assure compliance with policy
- Document initial and ongoing training with FDA approved IO device according to EMS Agency QA Policy

- Any PCR indicating use of an IO device will be forwarded to each agency's QA coordinator

VI. OTHER:

- Base station consultation for possible pain management if patient becomes conscious and complains of pain at insertion site
- Procedure and IV flow rate per manufacturer's recommendation
- This procedure should not delay transport