INTRAOSSEOUS INFUSION POLICY

PURPOSE

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

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.

INDICATIONS

- 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 in 2 attempts and after EJ evaluation OR 90 seconds from initial IV attempt.

- Tibial plateau location only.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

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

**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.

**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.