

PROVIDER MEDICAL DIRECTOR FUNCTIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES

PURPOSE

To differentiate the functions and responsibilities of provider medical directors from the functions and responsibilities of the Marin County EMS Agency Medical Director.

DEFINITION

- A. The Marin County EMS Agency Medical Director is the physician employed by or under contract for services to the County of Marin.
- B. A provider Medical Director is the physician who meets the criteria listed below and is the physician employed by or under contract for services to a County-approved ALS Provider.
 - 1. Currently licensed in California as a physician
 - 2. Board certified or qualified in Emergency Medicine
 - 3. Familiar with the current EMS system in Marin County
 - 4. Experienced with prehospital care components

POLICY

- A. The Marin County EMS Agency Medical Director is responsible for providing medical control and assuring medical accountability throughout the planning, implementation and evaluation of the EMS system.
- B. Under the authority of the Marin County EMS Agency Medical Director a provider Medical Director may perform the following duties and responsibilities as appropriate.
 - 1. Interface with other components of the system such as hospitals, other providers, physicians, nurses, contracting agencies.
 - 2. Participate in disaster training, planning, and preparation.
 - 3. Develop, implement and monitor programs or mechanisms for the following:
 - a. Problem-solving medically related issues or issues relating to the performance of paramedics, to handle questions or complaints regarding personnel
 - b. Medical equipment and supply procurement, storage and maintenance, including routine checks of narcotics
 - c. Billing procedures (if any)
 - d. Community education related to EMS
 - e. A field training and evaluation process providing for evaluation of performance of new employees or employees new to the position, yearly performance evaluations, and method for monitoring performance if deemed necessary
 - f. Infectious disease precautions and training
 - 4. Develop and implement an effective quality improvement program working toward continuous system and patient care improvement, to include the following:
 - a. Prospective off-line medical direction, including the following:
 - 1. On-going evaluation of skill adequacy and method in place to maintain skills at an acceptable level;

2. Verification that equipment is present and paramedics are knowledgeable in its use;
 3. Tailoring of on-going in-house education according to the needs of the individual provider agency.
- b. Retrospective off-line medical direction to include the following:
1. Review of care to assure compliance with system protocols including review of written patient care records; and
 2. Method for evaluating field care.
- C. The provider Medical Director shall have regular and active participation in the Physicians Advisory Committee.