

# Monterey County EMS System Policy



Policy Number: 3090  
Effective Date: 7/1/2018  
Review Date: 6/30/2021

## BASE CONTACT

### I. PURPOSE

To provide guidance regarding on-line medical control provided by the base hospital.

### II. POLICY

A. Base contact shall be made in the following circumstances:

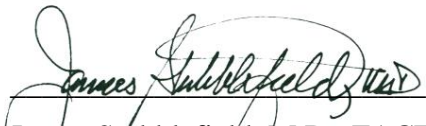
1. To receive direction from the base hospital physician to administer medications or provide treatments that are restricted by policy or protocol to base contact or base physician order only.
2. For a patient presenting with symptoms that cause uncertainty regarding the appropriate protocol to be used.
3. To obtain a field pronouncement of death when the patient does not meet criteria for determination of death.
4. For ALS treatments not specifically authorized by Monterey County Policy and Protocol but are within the Monterey County paramedic scope of practice.
5. For paramedic consultation with the base hospital physician when:
  - a. The patient is refusing care or transport and base physician involvement may convince the patient to accept the recommended treatment or transport.
  - b. There is disagreement among field providers regarding patient care.
  - c. The paramedic believes that base hospital physician involvement will benefit patient care.

6. As required under Monterey County EMS Policy such as Physician on Scene.

- B. Treatments in the Monterey County EMS treatment protocols designated as requiring base hospital contact may be performed prior to base contact should attempts to establish or maintain base contact fail. Continued attempts to establish base contact shall be made.
- C. The intended receiving hospital should be used for base contact if it is also a base hospital. If the intended receiving hospital is not a base hospital, base contact should be made with the closest base hospital.
- D. Receiving hospital notification shall also be made should the receiving hospital not be the base hospital. The Base Hospital shall contact the Receiving Hospital.
- E. Hospital notification should be made following the Early Hospital Ring-down policy for all transported patients.

- F. Documentation on the Patient Care Report (PCR) shall include the following when base hospital contact is attempted:
1. Name of the base hospital.
  2. Time of base contact.
  3. Physician orders received.
  4. Name of the base hospital physician involved.
- G. The Communication Failure policy shall be followed should there be inability to establish or maintain base hospital contact.

**END OF POLICY**

  
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