

Monterey County EMS System Policy



Policy Number: 4000
Effective Date: 7/1/2018
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EMERGENCY MEDICAL SCENE MANAGEMENT

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for management of an emergency medical scene.

II. POLICY

A. Authority

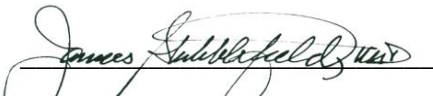
1. In accordance with Division 2.5 of the California Health and Safety Code Section 1798.6:
 - a. Authority for patient health care management in an emergency shall be vested in that licensed or certified health care professional, that may include any Paramedic or other prehospital emergency personnel, at the scene of the emergency who is most medically qualified specific to the rendering of emergency medical care. If no licensed or certified health care professional is available. The authority shall be vested in the most appropriate medically qualified representative of public safety agencies who may have responded to the scene of the emergency.
 - b. Notwithstanding subdivision (a), authority for the management of the scene of an emergency shall be vested in the appropriate public safety agency that has investigative authority” (Law Enforcement, Fire Department, and/or the Monterey County Health Officer). “The scene of an emergency shall be managed in a manner to minimize the risk of death or health impairment to the patient and to other persons who may be exposed to the risks as a result of the emergency condition, and priority shall be placed upon the interests of those persons exposed to the more serious and immediate risks of life and health. Public Safety officials shall consult emergency medical services personnel or other authoritative health care professionals at the scene in the determination of relevant risks.”

B. Scene Management

1. Scene management or incident organization may be based on the Incident Command System (ICS) and established ICS procedures. Incident Command will be as follows:
 - a. The first arriving unit on-scene shall assume the role of Incident Commander (IC).
 - b. The first arriving unit (IC) shall immediately assess the scene and situation. The IC shall inform County Communications of the following:
 - 1) Traffic and/or hazards
 - 2) Approximate number of victims
 - 3) Additional needed resources

- 4) Any extrication difficulties
 - 5) Known/suspected presence of hazardous materials
- c. All requests for additional resources shall be directed to the Monterey County Communications Center.
 - d. Patient care conflicts arising at the scene of an emergency should be resolved by the Incident Commander after consultation with the highest medical authority on-scene. Discussion of the conflict shall be conducted in a professional manner and shall not be conducted in the patient's presence.
2. Rescue and extrication will be performed by appropriate agencies, as necessary. Trapped patients shall be treated to the extent possible to prevent a deterioration in the patient's condition while extrication is being performed.
 3. For multi-patient scenes, medical care and scene management shall be handled in accordance with guidelines established in the Monterey County Multi-Casualty Incident (MCI) Plan when applicable.

END OF POLICY


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