

Monterey County EMS System Policy



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POLICY DEFINITIONS

I. PURPOSE

To establish standard terminology and definitions throughout Monterey County EMS Agency policies.

II. POLICY

A. The following terminology and definitions shall apply to all Monterey County EMS Agency Policies.:

1. "12-Lead ECG" means a 12-Lead electrocardiogram.
2. "Accessible Emergency Department" means a facility with the shortest transport time and is usually the closest emergency department. Factors such as traffic congestion, weather, the ability to get around a traffic collision scene, and other conditions could make a geographically further emergency department the more accessible emergency department.
3. "Accreditation" means a Paramedic, EMT, or Emergency Medical Dispatcher who has been oriented to the local EMS System and has been deemed competent by the Local EMS Agency in the use of those additional skills and/or medications in accordance with California Health and Safety Code.
4. "Accusation" means a written statement of charges set forth in ordinary and concise language the acts or omissions with which the respondent is charged.
5. "Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS)" means a group of clinical symptoms compatible with acute myocardial ischemia.
6. "Adult" means a person who is at least 18 years of age or an emancipated minor as per California law.
7. "Advance Healthcare Directive" means a document indicating an individual's wishes regarding medical care should that individual become incapacitated.
8. "Advanced Life Support" or "ALS" means special services designed to provide definitive prehospital emergency medical care, including, but not limited to, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, cardiac monitoring, cardiac defibrillation, advanced airway management, intravenous therapy, administration of specified drugs and other medicinal preparations, and other specified techniques and procedures administered by authorized personnel under the direct supervision of a base hospital as part of a local EMS system.
9. "Advanced Life Support (ALS) First Responder Agency" means a First Responder Agency that provides Paramedic personnel and ALS equipment to

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respond to medical emergencies with the capabilities to provide immediate Advanced Life Support medical care but does not provide ambulance services or other transport services.

10. “Advanced Life Support (ALS) Rescue Aircraft” means a rescue aircraft whose medical flight crew has at a minimum one attendant certified or licensed in advanced life support.
11. “Advanced Life Support (ALS) Transport Agency means a public or private corporation, institution, or agency that has demonstrated the capability to meet all criteria for approval and has a written agreement signed by the EMS Director to provide ALS ambulance services to a designated geographic area.
12. “Agency” means the Monterey County EMS Agency.
13. “ALS ambulance” means a Monterey County designated emergency vehicle staffed by and equipped to provide ALS at the scene of an emergency and/or during transport of (a) patient(s) experiencing a medical emergency to a hospital.
14. “Applicant” or “Applicant Agency” means the First Responder Agency that has applied to provide ALS services.
15. “Authorized Stock” means the lowest level of supply for each described item that should be found on an EMS unit when it is available for service.
16. “Ambulance Provider” means an entity permitted and contracted to provide BLS or ALS ambulances in Monterey County.
17. “ALS Service Provider” means an organization that has an agreement with the Monterey County EMS Agency to provide paramedic-level services within their service area.
18. “Ambulance” means any vehicle that is specially designed, constructed, modified, or equipped for transporting sick, injured, infirm, or otherwise incapacitated persons, capable of supporting BLS or a higher level of care.
19. “Air Ambulance” means any aircraft specially constructed, modified or equipped, and used for the primary purposes of responding to emergency calls and transporting critically ill or injured patients whose medical flight crew has at a minimum two (2) attendants certified or licensed in advanced life support.
20. “Airway adjuncts” means nasopharyngeal airways (NPA) or oral pharyngeal airways (OPA).
21. “Authorized person” means a person who is legally authorized to give consent for another person. Examples include:
 - a. A parent with legal custody of a minor child.
 - b. The legal guardian of a minor.
 - c. An adult relative, with whom a minor lives, and who presents a signed Caregiver’s Authorization
 - d. Affidavit.

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- e. An adult who has been authorized in writing by a custodial parent, legal guardian, or qualified adult relative (as above) to consent to medical treatment for a minor.
 - f. The patient's designated agent under a Power of Attorney for Healthcare Decisions.
 - g. The conservator of a person who has been found by a court to lack capacity.
22. "Automated External Defibrillator (AED)" means an external defibrillator capable of cardiac rhythm analysis that will charge and deliver a defibrillation shock either automatically or by user interaction after electronically detecting and assessing ventricular fibrillation or rapid ventricular tachycardia.
23. "Auxiliary Rescue Aircraft" means a rescue aircraft which does not have a medical flight crew, or whose medical flight crew does not meet the minimum requirements established in Section 100284. "Basic Life Support (BLS) Rescue Aircraft" - A rescue aircraft whose medical flight crew has, at a minimum, one attendant certified as an EMT with at least eight (8) hours of hospital clinical training and whose field/clinical experience specified in Section 100074 of Title 22, California Code of Regulations, is in the aero-medical transport of patients.
24. "Base Hospital" means a hospital designated by the Monterey County EMS Agency to provide online medical control of the prehospital EMS system, to cooperate in the Quality Improvement process, and to provide EMS continuing education opportunities for prehospital personnel.
25. "Base Hospital Physician" means a currently licensed physician in California who is assigned to the emergency department of a base hospital and has been trained to issue advice and instructions to EMS personnel consistent with Monterey County policy and protocol.
26. "Basic Life Support" (BLS) means emergency first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation procedures to maintain life without invasive techniques until the patient may be transported or until advanced life support is available.
27. "BEFAST Stroke Scale" means A patient assessment tool to identify stroke patients by assessing for the presence of Balance, Eye vision problems, Facial droop, Arm drift, Speech slurred, and Time.
28. "BLS Airway" means Bag valve mask (BVM) ventilation with or without airway adjuncts.
29. "Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training" means a course of instruction in CPR equivalent to the Healthcare Provider level or BLS Provider level as established by the American Heart Association and includes both cognitive and skill testing.
30. "Certificate" means one of the following:
- a. A valid EMT certificate issued pursuant to California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5.

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- b. A valid Paramedic license issued pursuant to Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5.
31. “Certificate holder” means one of the following:
- a. An individual that has been issued a valid EMT certificate pursuant to California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5.
 - b. An individual that has been issued a valid Paramedic license accreditation issued pursuant to Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5.
32. “Certified Flight Paramedic” or FP-C means a paramedic educated and trained in critical care transport and flight medicine, holds a current certification as an FP-C by the Board for Critical Care Transport and Flight Medicine, has a current California paramedic license, has Monterey County paramedic accreditation, and is employed by an EMS Aircraft Provider.
33. “Certifying entity” means the medical director of the Monterey County EMS Agency or a public safety provider, if that provider has a training program approved pursuant to California Health and Safety Code, Section 1797.109.
34. “Code 2” means a non-emergent response with no lights and siren.
35. “Code 3” means an emergent response with lights and siren.
36. “Consent” means to give permission for medical treatment or transportation. Consent can be expressed or implied.
- a. Expressed Consent. Verbal, nonverbal, or written communication by a patient that they wish to receive medical care.
37. “Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)” means a device that transmits an increased airway pressure to patients during oxygen delivery.
38. “Controlled Substance” is a medication declared by federal or state law to be illegal for sale or use but may be dispensed under a physician’s prescription. These laws aim to control the danger of addiction, abuse, physical and mental harm, trafficking by illegal means, and the dangers from the actions of those who have used the substances. These medications are grouped by “schedules” and are tightly regulated by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).
39. “Controlled Substances Management Plan” is the plan established by an ALS service provider agency to comply with this policy, and state and federal law and regulations pertaining to these substances.
40. “Convalescent Transport” means transport by a Monterey County authorized vehicle which is specially designed, constructed, modified, or equipped for transporting patients who require wheelchairs or who cannot travel in an upright, sitting position, and who in addition do not require medical care, assistance, or monitoring during the transport.
41. “Critical Care Transport (CCT)” means any transport of a patient by ambulance when the ambulance staff on board includes a physician a registered nurse, or

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- other medical personnel authorized to provide a level of care that exceeds the paramedic scope of practice.
42. “CQI” means Continuous Quality Improvement.
 43. “Critical Care Paramedic” or CCP-C means a paramedic educated and trained in critical care transport in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4, Section 100155(c).
 44. “Date of Service” means Date that the call was received at the County 911 Communications Center.
 45. “Determination of Death” means the process by which EMS providers, using predetermined criteria, conclude that resuscitative measures would be futile due to patient condition.
 46. “Disciplinary Cause or Reason” means only an action that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a paramedic and is considered evidence of a threat to the public health and safety as identified in the California Health and Safety Code, Section 1798.200 (c).
 47. “Department Operations Center (DOC)” means Monterey Health Department Operations Center established by the Health Officer to support an incident.
 48. “Do Not Resuscitate Order (DNR)” means an order to withhold resuscitative measures. This may include written documentation such as the EMS Prehospital DNR form, POLST form, a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care Decisions (DPAHCD) form, a physician order written in the patient’s medical record, or a DNR medallion.
 49. “Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care Decisions (DPAHCD)” means this document allows individuals to designate an “Attorney-In-Fact” who is authorized to make decisions regarding health care when the individual is incapacitated.
 50. “EMD” means a certified Emergency Medical Dispatcher.
 51. “Emergency Department” or “Emergency Room” means the area of a licensed general acute care hospital that customarily receives patients in need of emergency medical evaluation and/or care.
 52. “Emergency Medical Responder” (EMR) means a person who has successfully completed a Monterey County EMS Agency-approved First Responder course and is trained in BLS.
 53. “Emergency Medical Technician” (EMT) means a person who has successfully completed an EMT course which meets the requirements of California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, has passed all required tests, and who has been certified by an EMT certifying entity.
 54. Emergency Medical Technician-Expanded Scope- An EMT who has completed additional training specified by the Monterey County EMS Agency and works for an EMS service provider who has been accredited to provide EMT-Expanded Scope level of service.

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55. “Emergency Trauma Re-Triage” means the rapid identification and movement of patients meeting specific high-acuity criteria to a trauma center for specialized trauma care. Timeliness of evaluation and intervention at the trauma center is critical.
56. “EMS Agency” means the Monterey County Emergency Medical Services Agency.
57. “EMS Aircraft” means any aircraft utilized for the purpose of pre-hospital emergency patient response and transport. EMS Aircraft include Air Ambulances, ALS Rescue Aircraft, BLS Rescue Aircraft and Auxiliary Rescue Aircraft.
58. “EMS Authority” means California EMS Authority.
59. “EMS Communications Center” means the Monterey County EMS Communications Center as designated by Monterey County EMS Agency.
60. “EMS Communications System” means the EMS Communications System which encompasses all of the components and infrastructure used by EMS providers to communicate with each other. That includes radios, phones – including satellite, EMResource, and paging and alerting systems.
61. “EMS Duty Officer” means the EMS Agency representative who is on call 24 hours/day, available through the Monterey County EMS Communications Center.
62. “EMS Service Provider” means an organization employing certified EMT-I, certified EMT-II, or licensed paramedic personnel for the delivery of emergency medical care to the sick and injured at the scene of an emergency, during transport, or during interfacility transfer.
63. “EMS System” or “System” means the Monterey County EMS System.
64. “EMS-System Ambulance” means ambulance operating under Monterey County contract and authorized by Monterey County contract and authorized by Monterey County to respond to 9-1-1 emergency calls.
65. “EMT-P employer” or “paramedic employer” means an entity or organization approved by the Monterey County EMS Agency to provide advanced life support (ALS) services.
66. “Emergency Operations Center (EOC)” means the Monterey County Emergency Operations Center established to provide management and support in a disaster.
67. “ePCR” means electronic Patient Care Report or Patent Care Report.
68. “ETCO₂” means end tidal co₂ or capnography.
69. “Event of Concern” means events that do not necessarily breach any policies or procedures but are felt by the individuals involved to be potentially detrimental, should be reported.
70. “Field Training Officer” or “FTO” is an individual designated by a provider agency to conduct pre-accreditation field evaluations for new paramedics to the system, to conduct evaluations for new basic life support (EMT) personnel in the system, to provide both provider-based and county-based training in the field

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- environment, and to conduct quality improvement activities as determined by their employer.
71. “Health maintenance organization” (HMO) means an organization authorized under the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975.
 72. “Hemothorax” means an accumulation of blood in the chest cavity.
 73. “IAED” means International Academies of Emergency Dispatch.
 74. "Immediately" or "immediately available" means:
 - a. Unencumbered by conflicting duties or responsibilities;
 - b. Responding without delay when notified; and
 - c. Being physically available to the specified area of the hospital within the timeframe designated by the STEMI Receiving Center.
 75. “Imminent Death” means a condition wherein illness or injuries are of such severity that in the professional opinion of EMS personnel, death will probably occur before the patient arrives at the receiving hospital. This definition does not include any conscious patient regardless of the severity of illness or injury.
 76. “Implied Consent” means consent for treatment that is presumed for a patient who is mentally, physically, or emotionally unable to grant consent.
 77. “Incident Commander” means the individual that is jurisdictionally responsible for the command of all functions at the field response level.
 78. “In-extremis” means the inability to secure the airway.
 79. “Intranasal naloxone” means a commercially prepared device containing naloxone hydrochloride intended to deliver the naloxone hydrochloride intranasally.
 80. “Intraosseous Infusion” means establishing vascular access through bone marrow.
 81. “Intubation attempt” means any time the endotracheal tube (ETT) is placed past the patient’s teeth.
 82. “Landing Zone” means a place at or as near as practical to a medical emergency; a transfer point, or a site at or near a medical facility pre-selected and approved by an officer authorized by a public safety agency.
 83. “Law enforcement personnel” means peace officers required to complete the CPR and first aid training described in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Section 100017.
 84. “Local EMS Agency” means the agency, department, or office having primary responsibility for administration of emergency medical services in a county and which is designated pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code.
 85. “Major Trauma Victim (MTV)” means a patient who meets the criteria for transport to a designated Trauma Center in the Field Triage Decision Algorithm (meets CDC Step 1, 2, or 3 criteria).

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86. “Mechanical Circulatory Support (MCS) device” means a collective term denoting both the TAH and VADs.
87. “Medical Care, assistance, or monitoring” means care, assistance, or monitoring that requires any medical knowledge or skill.
88. “Medical Director” means the Monterey County EMS Agency Medical Director.
89. “Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC)” means the person designated by the Board of Supervisors to fill the role of MHOAC in a disaster.
90. “MPDS” means Medical Priority Dispatch Systems, an authorized, systematic caller interrogation system that provides coding, medical triage, and post-dispatch and pre-arrival life support instructions.
91. “M.T.P.” means Major Trauma Patient as defined in the Field Triage Criteria policy.
92. “Non-contract ambulance” means an EMT-I ambulance, an EMT-P ambulance, or a Critical Care Transport unit operating under Monterey County license but not authorized by Monterey County to respond to 9-1-1 emergency calls.
93. “On-call” means agreeing to be available to respond to the trauma center in order to provide a defined service, as defined by Monterey County EMS Agency Policy #5090 (Trauma Team Availability and Activation).
94. “Operational Area (OA)” means the County of Monterey or subdivision of the County of Monterey.
95. “Operational Area Lead Agency” means Agency having primary jurisdictional or statutory responsibility.
96. “Operational Support Agency” means Agency having secondary jurisdictional or statutory responsibility.
97. “Organ Donor” means an individual whose body or part is the subject of an anatomical gift.
98. “P1” means a Priority 1 emergency response requiring emergency lights and siren.
99. “P2” means a Priority 2 emergency response requiring emergency lights and siren.
100. “P3” means a Priority 3 urgent response that does not require lights and siren.
101. “Palliative Measures” means measures intended to make the patient comfortable, or to provide care that is not resuscitative in nature. Examples include: treating airway obstruction, pain management, bleeding control, and other care appropriate to the patient’s condition and in accordance with Monterey County EMS Policy and Protocol.
102. “Paramedic” or “EMT-P” means an individual licensed by the EMS Authority to provide advanced life support in accordance with the standards prescribed by California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4.

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103. “Paramedic Intern” or “Intern” means a paramedic student that has completed didactic and clinical portions of paramedic training and is eligible for, and who is in the process of completing, the field internship portion of paramedic training.
104. “Paramedic Preceptor” or “Preceptor” means a licensed and accredited paramedic that is authorized by the Monterey County EMS Agency to supervise and instruct paramedic students during their field internship.
105. “Partial Spinal Motion Restriction” means the use of a cervical collar only.
106. “Patient” means any person that:
 - a. Has experienced an event that could cause illness or injury; or
 - b. Is in a circumstance or situation that creates a suspicion of illness or injury; or
 - c. Makes a request for assistance, examination, or treatment; or
 - d. Has a chief complaint; or
 - e. Has signs or symptoms of illness or injury; or
 - f. Has spoken of or acted toward suicide; or
 - g. Is dead.
107. “Pediatric Patient” means a patient with an estimated weight < 40 kg or age < 9 years.
108. “Pediatric Trauma Patient” means a person less than 15 years of age who meets the criteria for transport to a designated trauma center in the Field Triage Decision Algorithm (Meets step 1, 2, or 3 criteria).
109. “Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST)” means a request regarding resuscitative measures that directs a healthcare provider regarding resuscitative measures. This form takes an individual’s wishes regarding life-sustaining treatment and converts them into a medical order. It addresses a range of life-sustaining interventions as well as the individual’s preferred intensity of treatment for each intervention.
110. “Pneumothorax” means accumulation of air in the pleural space.
111. “POST” means Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.
112. “Prehospital Emergency Medical Care Certificate” means any valid certificate to provide prehospital emergency medical care issued pursuant to California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5.
113. “Promptly” or “Promptly Available” means responding without delay when notified and requested to respond to the hospital; and being physically available to the specified area of the trauma center within a period of time that is medically prudent and in accordance with Monterey County EMS Agency Policy #5090.
114. “Public Access AED” means an AED which is accessible to the public and designed to be operated by individuals who do not have any specific medical training or expertise and intended for the purpose of assessing the need for and

- delivering, if necessary, a defibrillation in an unconscious person who has no signs of circulation. This definition does not apply to individuals who have been prescribed an AED by a physician for use on a specifically identified individual.
115. “Public Safety AED Service Provider (includes EMT AED Service Providers)” means an EMS Service Provider agency or organization that is responsible for, and is approved to operate, an AED.
116. “PSAP” means Public Safety Answering Point.
117. “Public Safety First Aid (PSFA)” means the recognition of and immediate care for injury or sudden illness, including medical emergencies, by public safety personnel prior to the availability of medical care by licensed or certified health care professionals.
118. “Public Safety Personnel” means a member of a fire department or district, or law enforcement officer whose primary duties are not primarily clerical or administrative.
119. “Qualified Flight Paramedic” is a paramedic with a current California paramedic license and Monterey County accreditation, have at least three (3) years of critical care experience, is employed by a Qualified Flight Program, has completed the Qualified Flight Program’s initial training and orientation, and is either an FP-C or FP in training, or a CCP-C or CC in training with additional education in flight and altitude physiology.
120. “Qualified Flight Program” means an aeromedical transport program that has met the requirements to participate in the Paramedic Scope of Practice-EMS Aircraft Based by meeting CAMTS Emergency Critical Care Accreditation or equivalent and is approved by the Monterey County EMS Agency.
121. “Qualified Specialist” or “Qualified Surgical Specialist” or “Qualified Non-Surgical Specialist” means a physician licensed in California who is board certified in a specialty by the American Board of Medical Specialties, the Advisory Board for Osteopathic Specialties, a Canadian board or other appropriate foreign specialty board as determined by the American Board of Medical Specialties for that specialty. Upon request of the Chief of Trauma of a trauma center, a non-board-certified physician may be recognized as a “qualified specialist” by the Monterey County EMS Agency Medical Director upon substantiation of need by a trauma center if:
- a. The physician can demonstrate to the appropriate hospital body and the hospital is able to document that he/she has met requirements which are equivalent to those of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) or the Royal College of Physician and Surgeons of Canada;
 - b. The physician can clearly demonstrate to the appropriate hospital body that he/she has substantial education, training, and experience in treating and managing trauma patients which shall be tracked by the trauma quality improvement program; and

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- c. The physician has successfully completed a residency program.
122. “Quality Improvement” means a method of evaluation of services provided, which includes defined standards, evaluation methodologies and utilization of evaluation results for continued system improvement. Such methods may include, but not be limited to, a written plan describing the program objectives, organizations, scope and mechanisms for overseeing the effectiveness of the program objectives, organizations, scope and mechanisms for overseeing the effectiveness of the program, as well as metrics for measuring and identifying areas in need of improvement and recognition of excellence.
123. “Reasonable Search” means a brief attempt by EMS personnel to locate documentation that may identify a patient as a potential organ donor, or one who has refused to make an anatomical gift. This search shall be limited to a wallet or purse that is on or near the individual, or to locate a driver’s license or other ID card with donor status information.
124. “Receiving Hospital” means a hospital designated by the Monterey County EMS Agency, which has a written agreement with Monterey County to receive patients from the EMS System.
125. “Regional Disaster Medical Health Coordinator/Specialist” means the person appointed by the EMS Authority and Department of Health Services and their assistant who are responsible for supporting mutual aid requests from the MHOAC for disaster response within the region and mutual aid support to other areas of the State.
126. “Relevant employer(s)” means those ambulance service providers permitted by the Department of the California Highway Patrol or a public safety agency (i.e. fire department or law enforcement agency) that the certificate holder works for or was working for at the time of the incident under review as an EMT whether as a paid employee or a volunteer.
127. “Respondent” means the EMT or applicant on whom the EMS Agency submits an accusation charging violation(s) of Health and Safety Code section 1798.200 or other good cause for taking action against an EMT certificate or for denial of EMT certification.
128. “Resuscitation” means resuscitative measures to include chest compressions, defibrillation, endotracheal intubation, assisting ventilations, and other treatments such as medication administration.
129. “Reportable Event” means any event that falls outside the norms for patient treatment or system operation, but does not result in death, or serious physical or psychological injury to the patient, or risk thereof but does require investigation for the purpose of quality improvement.
130. “Rescue Aircraft” means an aircraft whose usual function is not pre-hospital emergency patient transport but which may be utilized, in compliance with local EMS policy, for prehospital emergency patient transport when the use of an air or ground ambulance is inappropriate or unavailable. Rescue Aircraft includes ALS Rescue Aircraft, BLS Rescue Aircraft, and Auxiliary Rescue Aircraft.

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131. "Senior Resident" or "Senior Level Resident" means a physician licensed in the State of California who has completed at least three (3) years of the residency or is in their last year of residency training and has the capability of initiating treatment and who is in training as a member of the residency program as defined in §100244 of CCR, at the designated trauma center.
132. "Sentinel Event" means an unexpected occurrence involving death or serious physical or psychological injury, or risk thereof.
133. "Service area" means that geographic area defined by the local EMS agency in its trauma care system plan as the area served by a designated Trauma Center. §100246, CCR, Title 22, Div. 9.
134. "Situation Report" means Medical and Health Situational Report.
135. "Special Event" means any planned and organized event where an EMS service provider utilizes its personnel and resources to *provide* stand-by dedicated EMS services to participants and attendees of the event.
136. "Special weapons and tactics (SWAT) team" means a special group of law enforcement officers trained to deal with unusually dangerous or violent situations.
137. "Spinal Motion Restriction" means the process of providing restriction in movement of the patient's spine.
138. "Stand-by EMS Services" means the utilization of personnel and resources to provide EMS services above regular staffing levels which are dedicated to the event and not expected to be available to respond to incidents unrelated to the event.
139. "STEMI Activation" means direction by the ED physician and/or interventional cardiologist to assemble the STEMI team and prepare the cath lab upon receipt of a STEMI Alert.
140. "STEMI Alert" means the report from prehospital personnel that notifies a STEMI Receiving Hospital that a patient has a 12-Lead EKG indicating a STEMI. This alert should be made as soon as possible to allow the STEMI Receiving Hospital the greatest opportunity to prepare for the patient.
141. STEMI Receiving Center (SRC). A facility designated by the Monterey County EMS Agency to receive STEMI patients by ambulance and capable of providing percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI).
142. "ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI)" means a specific finding on the 12-Lead EKG showing ST segment elevation of greater than 1 mm in anatomically contiguous leads, indicating this specific type of myocardial infarction.
143. "Stroke Center" means a facility designated by the Monterey County EMS Agency for the purpose of receiving EMS patients who have positive findings on the BEFAST Stroke Scale.

144. "Tactical Medicine" means the delivery of medical services for law enforcement special operations.
145. "Tension pneumothorax" means an accumulation of air under pressure in the pleural space.
146. "Total Artificial Heart (TAH)" means a device that replaces the two ventricles of the heart. It may be used as a bridge to transplant or as a permanent replacement heart for patients dying from end-stage biventricular failure.
147. "Trauma Care System" or "Trauma System" means a system that is designed to meet the needs of all injured patients. The system shall be defined by the Local EMS Agency in its trauma system care plan in accordance with Trauma Regulations. §100248.
148. "Trauma Center" or "designated Trauma Center" means a licensed hospital, accredited by the Joint Commission, which has been designated as a Level I, II, III, or IV Trauma Center and/or Level I or II pediatric Trauma Center by the local EMS agency, in accordance with Trauma Care System regulations and statutes.
149. "Trauma Transfer" means the movement of other less seriously injured patients with traumatic injuries to the trauma center (those not meeting Emergency Re-Triage criteria) whose needs may be addressed in a prompt fashion but are less likely to require immediate intervention.
150. "Trauma Evaluation Quality Improvement Committee (TEQIC)" means a multi-disciplinary advisory committee to the EMS Medical Director whose purpose is to review the trauma system on a regular basis. It is comprised of designated representatives from the acute care hospitals within Monterey County. This is a closed committee.
151. "Trauma Registry" - a repository of data on the incidence, diagnosis, treatment, and outcome of acute trauma victims treated by emergency service personnel.
152. "Trauma Receiving Area" means a designated area within the trauma center that routinely receives and manages the care of trauma patients.
153. "Trauma Team" means the multi-disciplinary group of personnel who have been designated to collectively render care for trauma patients at the trauma center.
154. "Trauma System Participants" means all hospitals within Monterey County that receive trauma patients, and all prehospital care providers who treat and/or transport trauma patients.
155. "Time of Arrival at the Scene" means the time the responding resource arrives fully stopped at the location where the resource was dispatched. Arrival at a staging location will also be considered the time of arrival at the scene.
156. "Time of Arrival at the Receiving Facility" means the time that the resource comes to a stop at the destination when transporting a patient. Ambulance only.
157. "Time of Call Receipt" means the time that the call is received by the agency dispatch position either electronically or by phone.

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158. “Time of Dispatch” means the time that a resource was first notified/alerted by dispatch to respond to an incident.
159. “Time of Dispatch” as referenced in Policy #4140 (ALS Service Provider Response and Scene Time Reporting) means the time recorded in the CAD system by the dispatcher to denote the time that the responding unit was requested to respond to the request for service.
160. “Time of Departure From the Scene” means the time when a resource leaves a scene to transport a patient to another location.
161. “Time of Departure from the Scene or Cancellation” as referenced in Policy # 4140 (ALS Service Provider Response and Scene Time Reporting) means the time recorded in the CAD system when the unit notified their dispatch center that they are leaving the scene due to patient transport, becoming available, responding to another call, to pick up a staff member, or cancellation.
162. “Time of Transport Complete” means the time that the ambulance comes to a stop at the receiving facility or landing zone when transporting a patient. Ambulance only.
163. “Unusual Occurrence” means any event deemed to have an impact or potential impact on patient care, and/ or any practice felt to be outside the norm of acceptable patient care, as defined by MCEMS policies and protocols.
164. “Validated” means to determine by preliminary evaluation that an act specified in California Health and Safety Code, Section 1798.200 may have occurred.
165. “Ventricular Assist Device (VAD)” means a mechanical pump that is used to support heart function and blood flow in people who have weakened hearts.

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