

Monterey County EMS System Policy



Policy Number: 2001
Effective Date: 7/1/2025
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EMS AIRCRAFT-BASED PARAMEDIC SCOPE OF PRACTICE

I. PURPOSE

To allow specified scope of practice procedures, medications, and equipment for the EMS aircraft-based paramedic in addition to the Monterey County EMS paramedic scope of practice.

To participate in establishing a uniform scope of practice for EMS aircraft-based paramedics who may be assigned to EMS aircraft based in multiple counties.

II. POLICY

- A. The paramedic shall meet all requirements for State licensure and Monterey County accreditation as identified in California Code of Regulations, Title 22 and in accordance with Monterey County EMS system policies and procedures.
- B. The paramedic shall meet the requirements for designation as a Qualified Flight Paramedic.
- C. The paramedic shall work on the aircraft with a qualified R.N. EMS aircraft staffed without an R.N. and one or more paramedics shall function under the Monterey County paramedic scope of practice.
- D. Paramedic personnel shall adhere to the Monterey County paramedic scope of practice including the procedures, medications, and equipment specified in this policy.
- E. The scope of practice for paramedic personnel shall not exceed those activities authorized in California Code of Regulations Title 22 and by Monterey County policy.

III. SCOPE OF PRACTICE

- A. The paramedic working for an EMS aircraft provider based in Monterey County shall perform procedures and administer medications within the Monterey County scope of practice.
- B. The paramedic working for an EMS aircraft provider based in Monterey County may also perform these procedures while on duty with the EMS aircraft provider:
 - 1. Pediatric endotracheal intubation.
 - 2. Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI) to include use of:
 - a. Etomidate.
 - b. Ketamine.
 - c. Rocuronium.

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3. Video Laryngoscopy.
 4. Ventilator management, set up and maintenance.
 5. Set up and maintain thoracic drainage systems.
 6. Set up and maintain IV fluid delivery pumps and devices.
- C. Administer the following medications:
1. Heparin IV.
 2. Nitroglycerin IV.
 3. Norepinephrine.
 4. Thrombolytic agents.
 5. Maintain total parenteral nutrition.
 6. Lorazepam.
 7. Magnesium sulfate.
- D. Administer blood and blood products.

IV. MEDICAL CONTROL

- A. Medical Control shall remain the primary responsibility of the Monterey County Medical Director.
- B. Medical Control shall be delivered through Monterey County EMS policy and protocol in conjunction with the EMS aircraft program's policies and procedures, and with direction from a Monterey County base-hospital physician.
- C. EMS aircraft providers' policies and procedures may be utilized when approved by the Monterey County EMS Medical Director. EMS aircraft providers are not required to incorporate the whole scope of practice authorized in this policy. The EMS aircraft provider's medical director shall establish policies and procedures for paramedic scope of practice and use of the authorized procedures and medications in this policy
- D. The Monterey County-accredited paramedic, designated as a Qualified Flight Paramedic, while at the scene at a medical emergency, during transport, or during an interfacility transfer, may perform only those procedures and administer only those medications that are approved by the Monterey County EMS Medical Director.

END OF POLICY