I. AUTHORITY:


II. APPLICATION:

This policy describes the process for first responders and other qualified EMS system participants to be accredited in the use of advanced procedures, including automated external defibrillators, the Combitube, King Airway and bag-valve-mask ventilation.

III. CRITERIA:

A. The candidate shall:

- Have training as a public safety responder pursuant to Chapter 1.5, Division 9 of Title 22, California Code of Regulations with current CPR or be certified as an Emergency Medical Technician, AND

- Be employed by an Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS) approved service provider, including first responders and authorized on-scene medical care providers.

- Have successfully passed an OCEMS approved advanced procedures training course and exam consisting of not less than four (4) hours for defibrillation, and/or five (5) hours for esophageal-tracheal airway device (aka Combitube/King Airway) which shall include the topics and skills in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapters 1.5 or 2. OCEMS may adapt course requirements as needed for type of service providers, OR

- Be accredited by another EMS agency to provide the advanced procedures.

B. Maintaining accreditation:

Persons permitted to perform any of the optional skills listed in this policy must:

- For AED defibrillation: Successfully demonstrate defibrillation proficiency at least every two years, documented by the OCEMS approved service provider agency/organization to which the accredited first responder is assigned, as well as any required field care audits and/or periodic training sessions.

- For Combitube/King Airway: Successfully demonstrate skills competency monthly for the first six (6) months and then every six (6) months thereafter, unless required at more frequent intervals by the OCEMS medical director.

- For bag-valve-mask: Scheduled opportunities for the practice of bag-valve-mask skills and a policy for formal evaluation of skills at a recommended interval of about one year. A recertification examination on the use of bag-valve-mask ventilation in conjunction with CPR training at a minimum of every three years.
C. Withdrawal of Accreditation:

The OCEMS medical director upon cause may immediately terminate and withdraw the first responder's or first aid level provider's accreditation to perform advanced skills.

D. Validation of Course Completion:

- Each trainee who successfully completes an approved course of instruction and successfully passes a proficiency test shall be given written verification to that effect by the OCEMS approved organization or agency that provides the instruction.

- An employing agency that provides an approved course of instruction to its employees shall maintain a record of the names of trainees and the date the training course was completed. A listing of persons successfully completing this training shall be forwarded to OCEMS within 30 days of completion of training.

Approved:

Sam J. Stratton, MD, MPH
OCEMS Medical Director

Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN
OCEMS Administrator

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