I. AUTHORITY:

Health & Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1798; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Sections 100021 and 100064.

II. APPLICATION:

To authorize use of additional skills by first responders and community based EMS System participants (e.g., police departments and lifeguards). Examples include automated external defibrillation, Combitube, and bag-valve-mask ventilation.

III. CRITERIA:

Any provider of advanced skills must be approved by the OCEMS.

1. All personnel must be authorized by the OCEMS for the skill used.

2. All training programs will be approved and monitored by the OCEMS and meet either Orange County standards or Title 22 standards where defined.

   The service provider which provides an approved training course shall maintain a record of the names of trainees and the date the training course was completed.

3. Equipment shall be approved by the OCEMS.

4. The service provider shall document required demonstrations of competence and conduct specific field care audits and training sessions as required for skills maintenance.

   (Note: See OCEMS Policy & Procedure 425.05 for information on specific requirements.)

IV. DATA COLLECTION EVALUATION:

A. Use of a patient field report approved by the OCEMS.
   (See attached sample)

B. Required data shall be collected by each service provider and submitted annually to the OCEMS, unless a more frequent interval is specified for medical oversight.

C. Required Data:

   1. Defibrillation

      a. Number of patients on whom defibrillatory shocks were administered.

*Italicized Text Identifies Quotations From An Authority Outside The OCEMS.*
b. Number of these patients who suffered a witnessed cardiac arrest whose initial monitored rhythm was ventricular tachycardia or ventricular fibrillation (presumed by discharge of the machine).

c. Number of these patients (“b” above) who were discharged from the hospital alive.

2. Combitube

   a. Number of times Combitube was placed.

   b. Untoward events (e.g., failure to effectively ventilate, prolonged insertion time, patient injury).

3. Bag-Valve-Mask

   a. Any apparent complications or equipment failures.

D. Review of specific patient care shall be completed by the service provider in accordance with an approved quality improvement plan.

E. The OCEMS shall distribute an annual report of summarized data to service provider agencies and base hospitals.

V. APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-ORANGE COUNTY FIRST RESPONDER AGENCY:

If a first responder agency is approved in another county and requests to function in Orange County, the first responder agency shall:

1. Provide a written request to the OCEMS for approval to perform advanced skills in Orange County.

2. Provide the OCEMS with a copy of the approval letter issued from a local EMS Agency in the county they maintain as their base.

3. The provider agency shall maintain documentation that:
   
   a. Their personnel have current EMT certification.

   b. There is local EMS approval for use of the advanced skills.

4. Notify the Orange County EMS for AED and advanced procedures that occurred in Orange County.