



## MOBILE INTENSIVE CARE NURSE (MICN) AUTHORIZATION

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### I. AUTHORITY:

*Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.56, 1797.58, 1798.2; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 70217 & 100168.*

### II. APPLICATION:

This policy defines the process for the OCEMS medical director to authorize a registered nurse (RN) to function as a Mobile Intensive Care Nurse (MICN) at an Orange County Base Hospital.

### III. DEFINITIONS:

“Mobile intensive care nurse (MICN)” means a registered nurse who is functioning pursuant to Section 2725 of the Business and Professions Code and who has been authorized by the medical director of the local EMS agency.

“Base hospital treatment guidelines” are those medical directives identified in the OCEMS Base Hospital Treatment Guidelines as requiring a base hospital (BH) order which an MICN may issue to prehospital care personnel without consulting the base hospital physician. Base hospital treatment guidelines are approved by the OCEMS Medical Director.

### IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS:

- A. No person or organization other than a hospital which is currently designated as a base hospital (BH) by Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS) with authorized base hospital radios shall utilize an MICN to provide field care instructions to advanced life support (ALS) prehospital emergency medical care personnel.
- B. No person or organization shall utilize an RN to provide field care instructions to ALS prehospital emergency medical care personnel unless the RN is an MICN who is currently authorized by the OCEMS medical director to provide instructions or is an RN who has completed an MICN education program and is completing a preauthorization BH evaluation supervised or monitored by the employing BH's prehospital care coordinator or designee.
- C. No person shall represent him/herself as an MICN unless that person is currently authorized as an MICN by the OCEMS Medical Director.
- D. Nothing in this policy shall be deemed to abridge or restrict the duties or functions of an RN or MICN as otherwise provided by law.
- E. In addition to any other duties or functions which an RN may perform as otherwise provided by the law, an MICN may, while on duty at a designated BH, according to the base hospital treatment guidelines approved by the OCEMS Medical Director, provide on-line medical direction to ALS prehospital emergency medical care personnel who, as part of the OCEMS system, have responded to the scene of a medical emergency or are performing an interhospital emergency patient transfer as described in OCEMS Policy 310.20.
- F. Authorization as an MICN shall be for a maximum of two (2) years from the date of successful completion of all authorization requirements.
- G. An MICN authorization may be suspended, revoked, denied, or placed on probation by the OCEMS Medical Director in accordance with the standardized procedures set forth in OCEMS Policy 450.00.



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### V. APPLICATION CRITERIA:

To be eligible for authorization, an individual shall meet all of the following requirements:

- A. Be currently licensed as an RN in California
- B. Minimum one year full time experience as an RN in emergency nursing. For work at a CCERC, one year of pediatric ED experience is preferred.
- C. Current employment in the emergency department (ED) of an Orange County BH; or, current employment with OCEMS and a previous authorization as an MICN in Orange County.
- D. Successfully complete the authorization process (See Section VI).
- E. To work as an MICN at a CCERC, applicants must be credentialed as a Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse (CPEN) or be a current Emergency Nursing Pediatric Course (ENPC) provider or instructor.

### VI. AUTHORIZATION PROCESS FOR ALL CANDIDATES:

All of the following must be submitted to OCEMS when applying for initial MICN authorization:

- A. Take and pass the OCEMS MICN Candidate Pre-test examination with a minimum score of eighty percent (80%).

**NOTE:** If a candidate fails to pass the MICN pre-test examination, the examination may be re-taken at the next regularly scheduled exam date unless otherwise agreed by OCEMS. If a candidate fails a second time, he/she must wait one year before taking it again.

- B. Successful completion of an OCEMS approved MICN education program.
- C. Take and pass the OCEMS MICN authorization examination with a minimum score of eighty percent (80%).

1. Candidates working at a CCERC base hospital will be given an additional set of pediatric-specific examination questions.

**NOTE:** If a candidate fails to pass the MICN authorization examination, the examination may be re-taken at the next regularly scheduled exam date unless otherwise agreed by OCEMS. If the candidate fails to achieve eighty percent (80%) in the re-exam, he/she must successfully complete another OCEMS approved MICN education program.

- D. The following activities must be completed and documented within 12 months from date of passing the authorization examination
  1. Attendance at a communications orientation by a designee of an Orange County Dispatch Center.
  2. Base Hospital console preceptorship, supervised by the Base Hospital Coordinator (BHC) or designee.
  3. Demonstrate competency in scenario based calls as determined by OCEMS and base hospital coordinators.
  4. Base Hospital console training :
    - a. Demonstrate proficiency in the operation of the BH communications console to the satisfaction of the base hospital coordinator.

