





Physician Interaction with EMS

EMS ADMINISTRATION 111

PURPOSE	<p>I. To provide guidance to EMS personnel for dealing with a person that identifies themselves as a physician at the scene of an incident and wishes to be involved in patient care.</p>	
POLICY	<p>I. POLICY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Physicians interacting with EMS at the scene of an emergency may be unfamiliar with the prehospital scope of practice and local EMS protocols. B. If the physician wants to involve themselves beyond that of a layperson, Base Hospital contact should be made and maintained for the duration of the call. C. Any bystander that identifies themselves as a physician (MD or DO) must show proof of active license unless any of the following are present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call is to a healthcare facility and it is reasonably apparent to EMS personnel that bystander is a physician, i.e. uniform, name tag, etc. or physician is known to EMS personnel. D. Physician should be given the EMSA/CMA “Note to Physicians on Involvement with EMS Personnel” card, which provides a written explanation of how they can interact with EMS personnel. <p>II. PROCEDURE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Once physician identity is established, and card is given to and acknowledged by the physician bystander, offer them one of the three alternatives for physician involvement (as per EMSA/CMA card). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Option 1: Offer your assistance with another pair of eyes, hands or suggestions but let EMS personnel remain under base hospital control. 2. Option 2: Request to talk to the base station physician and directly offer your medical advice and assistance. 3. Option 3: Take total responsibility for the care given by EMS personnel and physically accompany the patient until the patient arrives at a hospital (if safety allows) and responsibility is assumed by the receiving physician. In addition, you must sign for all instructions given in accordance with local policy and procedures. (Whenever possible, remain in contact with the base station physician). 	
EMSA/CMA CARD	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <p><u>NOTE TO PHYSICIANS ON INVOLVEMENT WITH EMS PERSONNEL</u></p> <p>EMS Personnel operate under standard policies and procedures developed by the Local EMS Agency and approved by their Medical Director under the Authority of Division 2.5 of the California Health and Safety Code. The drugs they carry and the procedures they can do are restricted by law and local policy.</p> <p>If you want to assist, this can only be done through one of the alternatives listed on the back of this card. These alternatives have been endorsed by CMA, State EMS Authority, and CCLHO.</p> <p>Assistance rendered in the endorsed fashion, without compensation, is covered by the protection of the “Good Samaritan Code”(see Business and Professional Code, Sections 2144, 2395-2298 and Health and Safety Code 1799.104).(over)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ENDORSED ALTERNATIVES FOR PHYSICIAN INVOLVEMENT</p> <p>After identifying yourself by name as a physician licensed in the State of California, and if requested, showing proof of identity, you may choose one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offer your assistance with another pair of eyes, hands, or suggestions, but let EMS personnel remain under base hospital control; or, 2. Request to talk to the base station physician and directly offer your medical advice and assistance; or, 3. Take total responsibility for the care given by EMS personnel and physically accompany the patient until the patient arrives at a hospital (if safety allows) and responsibility is assumed by the receiving physician. In addition, you must sign for all instructions given in accordance with local policy and procedures. (Whenever possible, remain in contact with the base station physician) <p style="text-align: center;">(REV. 7/88) 88 49638 Provided by the EMS Authority</p>