

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for the prehospital triage of neonatal and high risk patients to an appropriate receiving facility.

**AUTHORITY:** Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.220

**POLICY:**

- I. Pregnant patients with the following presentations are to be transported to designated acute care hospital that meets additional criteria as specializing in the care of neonates and high risk pregnancies:
  - A. Pregnant patients who present with signs and symptoms of active labor and/or vaginal bleeding and meet one or more of the following conditions:
    - 1. No history of prenatal care
    - 2. Gestational age from 20 to 33 weeks
  - B. Pregnant patients who are between 20-33 weeks pregnant and are suspected to have incurred abdominal trauma.
  - C. Any newborn who meets one or more of the following conditions:
    - 1. Significant anoxia either prior to or during transport.
    - 2. Gestational age less than 33 weeks.
  
- II. In all cases where the mother or infant is displaying an immediate, life-threatening complaint (severe vaginal bleeding, breech or prolapsed cord presentation, or newborn respiratory distress or arrest) the patients will be transported to the nearest acute care hospital.
  
- III. The following hospital(s) are designated as Neonatal Intensive Care Centers in San Joaquin County:
  - A. San Joaquin General Hospital.
  
- IV. Acute care hospitals must meet the following conditions to be eligible for designation as a neonatal specialty care center:
  - A. Have a board certified neonatologist on-call and immediately available within 20 minutes of the patients arrival.
  
  - B. Have an area of the hospital that has been designated as a neonatal intensive care unit by the California Children's Services.

---

Effective: **September 1, 2007**

Page 1 of 2

Revised:

Supersedes: 550.01

Approved:

  
Medical Director

  
EMS Administrator

- C. Enter into a written agreement with the San Joaquin County EMS Agency designating the hospital as a Neonatal Specialty Care Center.

---


Effective: **September 1, 2007**

Page 2 of 2

Revised:

Supersedes: 550.01

Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
EMS Administrator