SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY

Jared Bagwell, *Director*
Jessica K. Willett, MD, *EMS Medical Director*

Memorandum

DATE: October 30, 2026

TO: All Prehospital Personnel and Providers
Base Hospital Personnel

FROM: Jessica K. Willett, M.D., EMS Medical Director
Jared Bagwell, EMS Director

SUBJ.: **Policies Open for Stakeholder Comment from October 30, 2026 to December 14, 2026**

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise system participants that the below policies will be open for stakeholder comment beginning on October 30, 2026 and ending on December 14, 2026.

I. SJCEMSA Policy No. 1500, EMCC Bylaws and Transfer to Alternate Destination:
   A. New policy for the creation of a Transfer to Alternate Destination program.
II. SJCEMSA Policy No. 2220, Public Safety-First Aid (PSFA) Scope of Practice:
   A. New policy outlining the scope of practice for PSFA providers.
III. SJCEMSA Policy No. 2320, Emergency Medical Technician Accreditation:
   A. New policy outlining EMT accreditation process so that EMT's can utilize i-gel airways.
IV. SJCEMSA Policy No. 2360, Emergency Medical Technician Scope of Practice:
   A. Removed section related to "EMT Enhanced Skills."
   B. Added i-gel Supraglottic airway.
   C. Added acetaminophen liquid PO, diphenhydramine liquid PO, ibuprofen liquid PO.
V. SJCEMSA Policy No. 2540, Paramedic Accreditation:
   A. Removed requirement to attend Policy Skills Review Course every two years and replaced it with annual mandatory update training.
   B. Added section II (7) with language regarding transfer of affiliation for accreditation.
VI. SJCEMSA Policy No. 2557, Adult Supraglottic Airway Device Performance Criteria:
   A. Added EMT to Performance Criteria section.

VII. SJCEMSA Policy No. 3101, Emergency Ambulance Dispatch Requirements:
   A. Added clarifying language to several sections.
   B. Added requirement to monitor advisory statuses and have the ability to notify field crews of system wide messages.

VIII. SJCEMSA Policy No 3202, MPDS Use and Assignments:
   A. Added clarifying language to several sections.
   B. Added language regarding calls initiating from the California Hospital Correctional facility.

IX. SJCEMSA Policy No. 4101, EMS Response Vehicle Medication and Equipment:
   A. Added “C-Collar” as an approved cervical spine stabilization device.
   B. Added acetaminophen liquid PO, diphenhydramine liquid PO, ibuprofen liquid PO.
   C. Added i-gels to BLS equipment list.

X. SJCEMSA Policy No. 4448, Aircraft Utilization:
   A. Added language that if two aircraft are available to dispatch, the geographically closer air ambulance will be dispatched.

XI. SJCEMSA Policy No. 4990, Nurse Navigation:
   A. New policy outlining new Nurse Navigation program.

XII. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5103, Determination of Death in the Field:
   A. Changed minimum time of 30 minutes to 20 minutes in medical cardiac arrest.
   B. Changed “May” to “shall in section III (B) so that base hospital contact must be made to determine death.
   C. Changed “May” to “Shall” in section IV (A) so that EMT must contact the base hospital to terminate resuscitative efforts.

XIII. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5107, Physical Restraint of Patients:
   A. New policy that replaces previous SJCEMSA Policy No. 5107, Physical Restraint of Patients.

XIV. SJCEMSA Policy No 5115, Spinal Motion Restriction:
   A. New policy that replaces previous SJCEMSA Policy No. 5115, Cervical Spine Stabilization.

XV. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5502, BLS Scope of Practice Summary:
   A. Removed reference to “Enhanced Skills EMTs”
   B. Added: Acetaminophen liquid PO, Diphenhydramine liquid PO, Ibuprofen liquid PO to EMT.
   C. Added i-Gels to EMT.

XVI. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5511, BLS Cardiac Arrest:
   A. Added insertion of i-gel after 8 minutes of MICR.

XVII. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5520, BLS Respiratory Distress:
   A. Added insertion of i-gel in patients with no gag reflex.

XVIII. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5543, BLS Nausea and Vomiting:
- A. Changed age contraindication from 18 to 13 years old.
- B. Removed pregnancy as a contraindication.

XIX. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5551, BLS Allergic Reaction – Anaphylaxis:
- A. Added diphenhydramine PO for mild and moderate reactions.

XX. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5552, BLS Bites and Stings:
- A. Added diphenhydramine PO for mild and moderate reactions.

XXI. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5586, BLS Pain Management:
- A. New policy allowing EMTs to treat pain with acetaminophen and ibuprofen.

XXII. SJCEMSA Policy No. 5700, Advanced Life Support Treatment Protocols V.2.0:
- A. AAIR-01 add language to not remove i-gel if inserted prior to ALS arrival.
- B. ACAR-03, Chest Pain of Suspected Cardiac Origin.
  1. Updated list of STEMI messages to include:
     - a. LP 15 - (***MEETS ST ELEVATION MI CRITERIA***).
     - b. LP 35 - (***ACUTE STEMI***), (***POSSIBLE ACUTE STEMI***), (**ACUTE MI/ISCHEMIA***).
     - c. Phillips Tempus - (***MEETS ST ELEVATION MI CRITERIA***), (***Consider Acute STEMI***), (***Acute MI/ Ischemia***).
     - d. Zoll X - (*** STEMI ***), (*** Acute ST Elevation Infarct***), (***Probable Acute ST Elevation Infarct***), (***Acute Infarct***).
- C. ACAR-04, Medical Cardiac Arrest.
  1. Changed Termination of Resuscitative (TOR) Efforts: From 30 minutes to 20 minutes.
- D. AGEN-05, Agitation/Behavioral Emergency.
  1. New protocol:
     - a. Mild to moderate agitation.
       - i. 5 mg Olanzapine PO.
     - b. Severe agitation.
       - i. 2.5 mg midazolam.
- E. Diluted epinephrine in all pediatric protocols has been removed and is now a base hospital order at 1mcg/kg.

XXIII. SJCEMSA Policy No. 6302, EMS Patient Care Record Data Access and Submission:
- A. Removed requirement to complete ePCR within 45 minutes.
- B. Added reference to being NEMSIS and CEMSIS compliant.
- C. Added language to include SJCEMSA required data points.

Please contact Matthew Esposito at mesposito@sjgov.org or at (209) 468-6818 for any questions or concerns.