



# San Joaquin County

## Emergency Medical Services Agency



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### **Policy Memorandum No. 2016-01**

DATE: January 6, 2016

TO: Prehospital Personnel and Providers

FROM: Richard N. Buys, M.D., Medical Director  
Dan Burch, EMS Administrator

SUBJ. Use of the Kendrick's Extrication Device (KED)

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance on the application of EMS Policy No. 5115, Cervical Spine Stabilization and to prevent the misapplication of the Kendrick's Extrication Device (KED).

Prehospital personnel shall comply with all of the following conditions when using a KED:

1. A KED may only be used when necessary to facilitate patient extrication from a motor vehicle or enclosed space.
2. An X-Collar™ shall be applied to all patients prior to using the KED.
3. Once applied the X-Collar™ and KED shall remain in place throughout transport to the trauma center unless removal is required in order to manage a compromised airway or perform chest compressions.
4. If a KED is applied the manufacturer's straps including head straps must be used. The use of tape or cling bandages or any other substitute in place of the manufacturer's straps is prohibited.

In all circumstances patient assessment and stabilization using an X-Collar™ should be performed in accordance with the requirements of EMS Policy No. 5115, Cervical Spine Stabilization.