

SIERRA-SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY PROGRAM POLICY

REFERENCE NO. 837

SUBJECT: MULTIPLE PATIENT/CASUALTY INCIDENTS

INTRODUCTION:

The Sierra-Sacramento Valley Emergency Medical Services Agency serves a multi-county area in California State OES Regions III and IV. EMS personnel must be prepared to quickly shift from a 1-on-1 patient/provider relationship to a multiple patient incident operation. This may include the routine 2-5 patient incidents through the multiple/mass casualty incidents. EMS personnel must be prepared to implement and function within the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), National Incident Management System (NIMS), and Multiple Casualty Incident (MCI)/Incident Command System (ICS).

PURPOSE:

To direct EMS responders regarding the response organization, personnel, equipment, resources, and procedures for field operations during a multiple casualty incident. This policy is intended to supplement the Cal-EMA Mutual Aid Region III and Region IV MCI Plans

AUTHORITY:

Health & Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.218, 1797.220.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, (Sections 100127, 100128, 100167, 100168, 100170).

California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 2, Articles 1-8, Sections 2400 et seq., Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) Regulations.

DEFINITIONS:

- A. **Multi-Casualty Incident (MCI)** is an incident which requires more emergency medical resources to adequately deal with the victims than those available during routine responses.
- B. **Control Facility (CF)** is the hospital responsible for the dispersal of patients during all Multi-Casualty Incidents. The designated Control Facilities for the S-SV EMS Region are listed in Policy Reference No. 505-A 'Hospital Capabilities'.

Effective Date: 12/01/2010

Date last Reviewed / Revised: 10/10

Next Review Date: 10/2013

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Approved:

SIGNATURE ON FILE
S-SV EMS Medical Director

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S-SV EMS Regional Executive Director

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POLICY:

- A. The OES Region IV MCI Plan shall be used as a standard for training and managing MCIs within the S-SV EMS Region until such time that an equivalent Region III MCI plan is developed and approved. This plan details the procedures for MCI response in the field (Manual 1), at the CF (Manual 2), and at the operational area and regional levels (Manual 3). Counties in Region IV will use all three manuals. Counties in Region III will use Manuals 1 and 2 until such time that an equivalent Region III MCI plan is developed and approved, and follow their local and regional protocols for local government, operational area, and regional assistance.
- B. During an MCI all S-SV EMS Agency policies and procedures for treatment, destination, etc apply. The CF shall consider trauma triage criteria before directing the transport of trauma patients. Immediate trauma patients shall be transported to designated trauma centers until the trauma centers are unable to accept further trauma patients.
- C. Emergency response agencies and personnel shall familiarize themselves with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) Regulations.
- D. EMS personnel shall apply Incident Command System (ICS) concepts routinely on all emergency responses so that shifting from 1-on-1 patient/provider relationship to a multiple patient incident will occur without difficulty.
- E. Provider agencies shall be responsible for the training of their personnel in the above.

PROCEDURE

Activation of the Multi-Casualty Incident System consists of the mobilization of the necessary resources, notification of the CF, and initiation of ICS.

- A. As soon as it is determined that an emergency call may prove to be an MCI, additional appropriate resource requests and CF notifications should occur.
- B. The procedures listed in the 'MCI – Response Procedures' addendum, Reference No. 837-A shall be followed, and the CF shall be utilized when one or more of the following criteria are met:
 - Five (5) or more Immediate and/or Delayed patients from a unifocal incident, or
 - Ten (10) or more Minor patients from a unifocal incident, irrespective of the number of Immediate and/or Delayed patients, or

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- At the discretion of the EMS provider(s) on scene or the base/modified base hospital.

CROSS REFERENCES:

Policy and Procedure Manual

S-SV EMS Region Hospital Capabilities, Reference No. 505-A

Base Hospital/Modified Base Hospital Contact, Reference No. 812

Medical Control at the Scene of an Emergency, Reference No. 835

MCI – Response Procedures, Reference No. 837-A

MCI – ICS Medical Branch Organizational Structure, Reference No. 837-B

MCI – Position Responsibilities, Reference No. 837-C