

**SIERRA-SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY
ALS PROGRAM POLICY**

REFERENCE NO. 840

SUBJECT: MEDICAL CONTROL FOR TRANSFERS BETWEEN ACUTE CARE FACILITIES

PURPOSE:

This policy is to assure medical control of potentially unstable patients during transfers between acute care facilities.

This policy does not exempt any acute care hospital or physician from meeting their statutory or regulatory obligations for transfers. The medical/legal responsibility for the patient rests with the transferring physician.

AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.185, 1797.194, 1797.218, 1797.220, 1798.102, 1798.170, 1798.172.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9.

United States Code, Title 42, Section 395dd, EMTALA Statute

Code of Federal Regulations 42, Sections 489.20 and 489.24, EMTALA Regulations

POLICY:

1. Prior to accepting the patient for an acute care inter-facility transfer, the paramedic shall:
 - a. Obtain pertinent patient information to include: Patient diagnosis, history, and documentation of the therapies that the patient received while in the hospital or the previous four (4) hours, which ever is less.
 - b. Complete a physical assessment, including vital signs.
2. The paramedic may contact the base hospital if, in his/her judgment, there is a need to solicit medical direction or consultation in regard to patient stability and/or scope of practice issue(s).
3. Inter-facility transfers out of the S-SV EMS region.

If a patient is to be transferred outside of the S-SV EMS region or base hospital radio contact range, the paramedic may provide care according to approved

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Approved:

William J. Koenig, M.D.
S-SV EMS Medical Director

Leonard R. Inch
S-SV EMS Regional Executive Director

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S-SV EMS policies and ALS Field Treatment Protocols.

CROSS REFERENCES:

Policy and Procedure Manual

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

Patient Care Report (PCR) Form, Reference No. 605