

SIERRA-SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY PROGRAM POLICY

REFERENCE NO. 842

SUBJECT: AUTOMATIC TRANSPORT VENTILATOR USE DURING INTERFACILITY TRANSPORTS

PURPOSE:

To provide a mechanism for paramedics to be permitted to use, monitor, and adjust Automatic Transport Ventilators (ATV's) during interfacility transports (IFT's).

AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.220

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 100145

POLICY:

Only those paramedics who have successfully completed training program(s) approved by the S-SV EMS Agency Medical Director on ATV's will be permitted to use them during interfacility transports.

Only those ALS ambulance providers approved by the S-SV EMS Agency Medical Director will be permitted to use ATV's during interfacility transports.

PROCEDURE:

- A. Paramedics will not initiate ventilator support.
- B. Signed transfer orders from the transferring physician shall be obtained prior to transport. Transport orders must provide for maintaining and adjusting ventilations via ATV settings during transport.
- C. Ventilator support must be regulated by an ATV familiar to the paramedic.
- D. If an ATV failure occurs and cannot be corrected, the paramedic is to discontinue use of the ATV and initiate ventilation by bag-valve and the transferring physician and base hospital notified as soon as possible. The S-SV EMS Agency Medical Director shall be notified of the ATV failure within 24 hours.
- E. Paramedics shall continually observe the patient and document patient response to any changes while the device is operational.

Effective Date: 01/01/2010
Next Review Date: 11/2012
Approved:

Date last Reviewed / Revised: 11/09
Page 1 of 3

SIGNATURE ON FILE
S-SV EMS Medical Director

SIGNATURE OON FILE
S-SV EMS Regional Executive Director

**SUBJECT: AUTOMATIC TRANSPORT VENTILATOR USE DURING
INTERFACILITY TRANSFERS**

- F. ATV initial settings and any subsequent changes shall be documented on the PCR.
- G. The paramedic is responsible for all airway management and must frequently reassess endotracheal tube placement. Endotracheal tube placement shall be checked after each patient movement (bilateral breath sounds, end-tidal CO₂).
- H. A non-invasive BP monitor device shall be utilized. Vital signs will be monitored and documented every 15 minutes and immediately if there is any change in patient status or adjustment of the ATV setting. Vital signs shall also include pulse oximetry and cardiac monitoring which shall be maintained throughout transport.
- I. A continuous end-tidal CO₂ detector device must be employed during transport (capnograph or waveform capnography are preferred).
- J. The ventilator that the provider is to use must be able to match the existing ventilator settings and shall include the following minimum device features (including circuit):
 - 1. Modes:
 - a. Assist Control (AC)
 - b. Synchronized Intermittent Mandatory Ventilation (SIMV)
 - c. Controlled Mechanical Ventilation (CMV)
 - 2. Set rate of ventilations
 - 3. Adjustable delivered tidal volume
 - 4. Adjustable FiO₂
 - 5. Positive End-Expiratory Pressure (PEEP)
 - 6. Adjustable Inspiratory and Expiratory ratios (I:E ratio)
 - 7. Peak airway pressure gauge
 - 8. Alarms:
 - a. Peak airway pressure
 - b. Disconnect
- K. Agencies approved for use of this equipment must follow the manufacturer instructions regarding the use, maintenance, cleaning and regular testing of this device. At a minimum, ATV equipment shall undergo preventative testing and maintenance by qualified manufacturer's representative personnel or designee annually.
- L. Paramedics must be thoroughly trained and regularly retrained in the device's use. Such training shall occur no less than annually and shall be documented.

**SUBJECT: AUTOMATIC TRANSPORT VENTILATOR USE DURING
INTERFACILITY TRANSFERS**

CROSS REFERENCES:

Prehospital Care Policy Manual

Paramedic interfacility transport optional skills: Transferring hospital requirements,
Reference No. 341

Paramedic interfacility transport optional skills: Service provider Requirements and
Responsibilities, Reference No. 441

Paramedic interfacility transport optional skills: Application and approval process,
Reference No. 442