


Sierra – Sacramento Valley EMS Agency Program Policy

Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS)

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|  | Effective: 06/01/2018 | Next Review: 01/2021 | 460 |
| | Approval: Troy M. Falck, MD – Medical Director | | SIGNATURE ON FILE |
| | Approval: Victoria Pinette – Executive Director | | SIGNATURE ON FILE |

PURPOSE:

- A. To define the different types of tactical emergency medical services (TEMS) utilized in the S-SV EMS region.
- B. To establish the training, program approval, utilization and equipment requirements for TEMS programs and personnel.

DEFINITIONS:

- A. Tactical Casualty Care (TCC): The delivery of specialized TEMS to casualties of active shooter/mass violence incidents by EMS personnel. TCC trained EMS personnel respond as medical support to law enforcement incidents and provide field tactical medical care to casualties usually in an area where there is minimal to no direct or immediate safety threat.
- B. Tactical Medicine for Special Operations: The delivery of specialized TEMS to casualties of any active law enforcement incident by law enforcement personnel assigned to a Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) operations team. Tactical Medicine for Special Operations personnel respond as an integral part of a SWAT operation team and may provide field tactical medical care to casualties in an area where there is a direct and immediate safety threat.

AUTHORITY:

- A. California Health and Safety Code § 1797.218, 1797.220 and 1798.
- B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, § 100145 and 100169.
- C. California POST/EMSA Tactical Medicine Operational Programs and Standardized Training Recommendations – July 2009.
- D. California Tactical Casualty Care Training Guidelines (EMSA #370) – June 2017.

POLICY:

- A. The tactical incident response environment presents unique challenges to law enforcement personnel and personnel providing emergency medical services in that environment. TEMS personnel must have a clear understanding of law enforcement response and tactics and the mission-specific objectives of a tactical operation when planning for and providing medical support.
- B. TEMS trained personnel should be utilized when available to provide emergency medical services during an active shooter/mass violence incident and/or to support law enforcement special operations as appropriate. If necessary, EMS personnel without specific TEMS training may be utilized to provide emergency medical care during these type of incidents as requested/directed by Incident/Unified Command.

PROCEDURE:

A. Tactical Casualty Care (TCC)

1. Tactical First Aid/TEMS First Responder Operations (FRO) Training Requirement:

- Tactical First Aid/TEMS FRO training provides EMS personnel basic TCC techniques and a broad overview of law enforcement tactical operations and rescue operations methodologies. Upon course completion, participants will possess basic knowledge and skills to administer TCC to casualties during an active law enforcement incident.
- A minimum of four (4) hours training is required, although eight (8) hours of training is recommended, and shall include the following topics:
 - An overview of the California tactical casualty care initiative and its emergency medical and fire agency personnel response to active law enforcement incidents within state EMS systems.
 - Common tactical and rescue terminology and operations.
 - Description and demonstration of basic tactical casualty care techniques.
 - Casualty movement and evacuation techniques.
 - Medical planning and threat assessment considerations.
 - Comprehensive, competency-based student demonstration and, when applicable, student skills testing.

2. Tactical Lifesaver/TEMS Technician Training Requirement:

- Tactical Lifesaver/TEMS Technician training provides EMS personnel more advanced life support tactical medicine techniques and comprehensive instruction on the role of EMS in tactical response planning, response, and inter-department operations when providing medical support to law enforcement personnel during active shooter/mass violence incidents.

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- A minimum of forty (40) hours training is required, and shall include the following topics:
 - Introduction and course administration and safety.
 - An overview of the California tactical casualty care initiative.
 - The role of California EMS personnel as it relates to medical planning, EMS medical support response, and inter-department operations.
 - Common tactical and rescue terminology and operations.
 - Casualty movement and evacuation techniques.
 - Threat assessment considerations.
 - Hemostasis: hemorrhage control management skills.
 - Airway and respiration management skills.
 - Circulation management skills.
 - Environmental injuries management.
 - Medication administration and pain management.
 - Medical aspects of tactical operations.
 - Team health management.
 - Comprehensive, competency-based student demonstration and skills testing.
3. Tactical First Aid/TEMS FRO and/or Tactical Lifesaver/TEMS Technician TCC Training Program Approval:
- S-SV EMS is responsible for approving/monitoring TCC training programs conducted within the S-SV EMS region.
 - Programs shall meet the applicable requirements contained in the California Tactical Casualty Care Training Guidelines (EMSA #370) to receive S-SV EMS TCC training program approval.
 - Interested entities may contact S-SV EMS to request a TCC training program application.
4. TCC Providers/Personnel:
- BLS/ALS prehospital service providers located within the S-SV EMS region may provide TCC services, in coordination with law enforcement, without the need for special TCC service provider approval.
 - Medical direction and oversight of TCC trained personnel is provided by the S-SV EMS medical director (through established S-SV EMS policies/protocols), in coordination with local law enforcement.
 - Equipment and supplies carried/utilized by TCC trained personnel shall be consistent with items listed in the S-SV EMS Prehospital Provider Agency Inventory Requirements Policy (701).

B. Tactical Medicine for Special Operations Programs

1. The California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) is responsible for approving/monitoring Tactical Medicine for Special Operations training programs.
2. Tactical Medicine for Special Operations TEMS personnel shall successfully complete all initial and ongoing recommended training provided by a POST approved Tactical Medicine for Special Operations training program.
3. Medical direction and oversight of Tactical Medicine for Special Operations personnel is provided by a licensed physician associated with the approved program, in coordination with S-SV EMS. Prehospital EMS personnel shall only provide medical care that is within their approved scope of practice.
4. Tactical Medicine for Special Operations service provider programs require S-SV EMS approval. Interested entities may contact S-SV EMS to request a service provider application.
5. Equipment and supplies carried/utilized by Tactical Medicine for Special Operations TEMS personnel shall be consistent with the items listed in the 'California POST/EMSA Tactical Medicine Operational Programs and Standardized Training Recommendations' document. Equipment and supplies shall be based on the appropriate level and approved scope of practice of personnel utilized for the particular tactical medicine program.