


Sierra – Sacramento Valley EMS Agency Program Policy

**Paramedic Scope Of Practice**

	Effective: 12/01/2018	Next Review: 12/2021	<b>803</b>
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**PURPOSE:**

To establish the paramedic scope of practice in the S-SV EMS region.

**AUTHORITY:**

- A. California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, § 1797.84, 1797.172, 1797.220.
- B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4, § 10046 & 100147.

**POLICY:**

- A. A paramedic may perform any activity listed in the S-SV EMS EMT Scope of Practice Policy (801), or the S-SV EMS AEMT Scope of Practice Policy (802).
- B. Activities listed in the ‘Paramedic Basic Scope of Practice’ section of this policy may be performed by paramedic students or paramedics under the following conditions:
  - 1. Paramedic students currently enrolled in an approved paramedic training program, who are under the direct supervision of an approved paramedic field preceptor in the prehospital setting, or who are under the direct supervision of a physician, registered nurse, or physician assistant in the hospital setting.
  - 2. California licensed and S-SV EMS accredited paramedics who are part of the organized EMS system, functioning under the oversight of an S-SV EMS approved paramedic prehospital service provider agency as follows:
    - Under the direct supervision of a physician, registered nurse, or physician assistant in the hospital setting for the purposes of CE or while working in a rural hospital pursuant to § 1797.195 of the California Health and Safety Code.
    - Standing order patient care specified in S-SV EMS approved policies/protocols.
    - Base/modified base hospital physician or MICN on-line medical direction.
    - Physician direction as specified in S-SV EMS Physician On Scene Policy (839).
    - Physician interfacility transport written orders as specified in S-SV EMS Medical Control For Transfers Between Acute Care Facilities Policy (840).

C. Activities listed in the 'Paramedic Optional Scope of Practice' section of this policy, as applicable to the specific provider agency, may be performed by paramedic students under the conditions indicated above, or by California licensed and S-SV EMS accredited paramedics who are part of the organized EMS system and are functioning under the oversight of an S-SV EMS approved paramedic optional skills provider.

D. Paramedic Basic Scope of Practice:

1. Utilize electrocardiographic devices and monitor electrocardiograms, including 12-lead electrocardiograms.
2. Perform defibrillation, synchronized cardioversion and external cardiac pacing.
3. Visualize the airway by use of a laryngoscope and remove foreign bodies with Magill forceps.
4. Perform pulmonary ventilation by use of a King LT Airway Device, stomal intubation, or adult oral endotracheal intubation.
5. Utilize ventilation devices for continuous positive airway pressure.
6. Institute IV catheters, saline locks, needles, or other cannula, in peripheral veins and monitor/administer medications through pre-existing vascular access.
7. Institute intraosseous access.
8. Administer IV or IO glucose solutions or isotonic balanced salt solutions, including Ringer's Lactate solution.
9. Obtain venous blood samples.
10. Use laboratory devices, including point of care testing, for prehospital screening use to measure lab values including, but not limited to: glucose, capnometry, capnography, and carbon monoxide.
11. Utilize Valsalva maneuver.
12. Perform percutaneous needle cricothyroidotomy.
13. Perform needle thoracostomy.
14. Monitor thoracostomy tubes.
15. Monitor and adjust IV solutions containing potassium  $\leq 40$  mEq/L.

16. Administer approved medications by the following routes: IV, IO, intramuscular, subcutaneous, inhalation, transcutaneous, rectal, sublingual, endotracheal, intranasal, oral or topical.

17. Administer the following medications:

- 10% dextrose.
- 50% dextrose.
- Activated charcoal.
- Adenosine.
- Albuterol.
- Amiodarone.
- Aspirin.
- Atropine sulfate.
- Calcium chloride.
- Diphenhydramine hydrochloride.
- Dopamine hydrochloride.
- Epinephrine.
- Fentanyl.
- Glucagon.
- Ipratropium bromide.
- Midazolam.
- Lidocaine hydrochloride.
- Morphine sulfate.
- Naloxone hydrochloride.
- Nitroglycerin preparations (except intravenous).
- Ondansetron.
- Pralidoxime chloride.
- Sodium bicarbonate.

E. Paramedic Optional Scope of Practice:

1. Perform pulmonary ventilation of adult and pediatric patients by use of the i-gel LMA device.
2. Administer the following medications:
  - IV acetaminophen.
  - Ketamine.
  - Ketorolac.
  - TXA.

3. Perform the following during interfacility patient transports:

- Monitor preexisting intravenous infusion of magnesium sulfate, nitroglycerin, heparin and/or amiodarone.
- Monitor blood transfusions.
- Utilize automatic transport ventilators (ATV's).