



County of Santa Clara Emergency Medical Services System

Policy #213: High Risk / Low Frequency Skills Training

HIGH RISK / LOW FREQUENCY SKILLS TRAINING

Effective: February 2, 2016
Replaces: New
Review: November 1, 2018

Resources:

Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.220 & 1798 et seq.
State of California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 12

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to specify the requirements that EMS providers shall adhere to in demonstrating competency for high risk, low frequency skills.

II. Definition

A high risk, low frequency skill is defined as a skill that is performed or applied on an infrequent basis and has the potential to cause significant harm to a patient, if performed incorrectly. These skills are subject to change annually at the discretion of the EMS Agency Medical Director and in collaboration with the Prehospital Care System Quality Improvement Committee.

III. EMS Prehospital Provider and Personnel Responsibilities

- A. Demonstration of competency in high risk, low frequency skills will be performed in a training environment using mannequins and simulators. The demonstration shall be supervised by an EMS prehospital provider agency approved proctor.
- B. EMS prehospital provider agencies are required to develop a process that affords all ALS personnel the opportunity to demonstrate skill competency at the required intervals as identified by the Prehospital Care System Quality Improvement Committee and approved by the EMS Agency Medical Director.
- C. EMS prehospital provider agencies and ALS personnel shall follow the process specified in the respective county protocol when exercising a high risk, low frequency skill. Proctors shall use county approved skill testing worksheets. Skill worksheets shall be developed by the Prehospital Care System Quality Improvement Committee and approved by the EMS Agency Medical Director.

- D. EMS prehospital provider agencies shall track their employees' training records using a county approved spreadsheet or database. Training attendance records shall be submitted to the EMS Agency on an annual basis, no later than January 15 of the following year.
- E. EMS prehospital provider agencies shall ensure sufficient training equipment and supplies are available during training periods.
- F. The medical director reserves the right to increase or decrease the frequency of high risk, low frequency skills training based on clinical data and his/her professional medical judgment.