



County of Santa Clara
Emergency Medical Services System
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Number:	AO 2023-002
Title:	Modification of Policy 302 [Prehospital Care Asset – Minimum Inventory Requirements] related to the Management of Albuterol Solution Shortage
Effective:	April 13, 2023

I. Declaration

The Santa Clara County Emergency Medical Services Agency has determined that an unscheduled temporary policy modification **regarding management of an albuterol solution shortage** is required.

Consistent with *Santa Clara County Prehospital Care Policy 109: Policy Development and Implementation*, the EMS Director, or designee, may issue Administrative Orders when immediate changes are necessary.

II. Statement of Change and Rationale

Sterile generic drugs used in emergency conditions are often produced by one or only a few pharmaceutical companies. In February 2023 one of the manufacturers of albuterol solution ceased operations resulting in market pressure on the other manufacturers. Backorders and shortage of albuterol solution followed.

This Administrative Order identifies the inventory replacement strategies when Albuterol 2.5 mg in 3 ml NS is not available or available in sufficient quantities to meet the minimum inventory requirements identified in Policy 302 (Table 1).

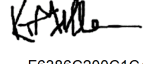
Table 1: ALS Medications (Current Minimum Inventory Requirement)	ALS Transport	ALS Non-Transport
Albuterol 2.5 mg in 3 ml NS (bullet)	6 bullets	3 bullets

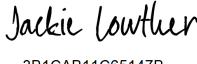
Inventory strategies (Table 2) to be employed when Albuterol 2.5 mg in 3 ml NS is not available or available in sufficient quantities to meet the minimum inventory requirements listed in Table 1.

Table 2: ALS Medications (Modified Inventory Strategies)	ALS Transport	ALS Non-Transport
Albuterol 2.5 mg in 3 ml NS (bullet)	3 bullets	2 bullets
Albuterol Metered-Dose Inhaler with valved holding chamber (spacer)	2	2
Levalbuterol 1.25 mg in 3 ml NS	3	2
Levalbuterol 0.63 mg in 3 ml NS	6	4
Levalbuterol Metered-Dose Inhaler with valved holding chamber (spacer)	2	2

III. Execution

Administrative Order # 2023-002 is in effect as of April 13, 2023. This Administrative Order will remain in effect concurrently with AO #2023-001 and will expire on June 29, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

 F6386C200C1C464
 Ken Miller, MD, PhD
 EMS Medical Director

DocuSigned by:

 3B1CAB11C65147B
 Jackie Lowther, RN, MSN, MBA
 EMS Agency Director

Please direct any questions to Ken Miller, MD, EMS Medical Director, by phone at 408.794.0615, or via email at kenneth.miller@ems.sccgov.org