



POLICY NO:	610
DATE ISSUED:	6/2002
DATE REVIEWED/REVISED:	7/2010
DATE TO BE REVIEWED:	7/2012

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

### BASE HOSPITAL STANDARDS

**Purpose:** To define the role of the paramedic Base Hospital in the Santa Barbara County EMS System. To define the criteria which shall be met by an acute care Hospital for Base Hospital designation.

**Authority:** Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1798, 1798.100, 1798.101, 1798.102, 1798.103 & 1798.104. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Section 100174 & 100175.

**Definitions:**

“BLS call” means a basic life support call. No ALS measures or interventions performed by the paramedic.

“ALS call” means an advanced life support call. Must have one or more ALS interventions, or attempts.

**Policy:** A Base Hospital is designated by the Santa Barbara County EMS Agency to provide immediate medical direction and supervision of paramedic personnel, and all prehospital medical care delivered, in accordance with policies established by the EMS Agency. The criteria stated in this policy shall be met by a Santa Barbara County Base Hospital.

**Procedure:**

An Advanced Life Support (ALS) Base Hospital (BH), approved and designated by the Santa Barbara County EMS Agency, shall meet all of the Receiving Hospital (RH) criteria listed in Policy 600 plus:

1. Have the capability to provide, at all times radio communications with the capability to tape record the communications between the Base Hospital and prehospital care personnel.
2. Assure that communication between the Base Hospital and the ALS unit for each ALS call shall be provided by the Base Hospital physician by radio or telephone. Authorization to cancel call can only be done by Base Hospital physician.

**APPROVED:**

Handwritten signature of Nancy A. Lapolla in blue ink.

Nancy A. Lapolla, EMS Director

Handwritten signature of Angelo Salvucci in blue ink.

Angelo Salvucci, MD, EMS Medical Director

TITLE: BASE HOSPITAL STANDARDS

---

3. Designate a Base Hospital Coordinator (Paramedic Liaison Nurse) who will serve on various EMS committees related to prehospital care. In addition this individual, along with the Base Hospital Medical Director, will coordinate the Base Station meetings for the primary service of paramedic continuing education.
4. Designate a Base Hospital Medical Director who shall be a physician on the hospital staff, licensed by the State of California and have experience in emergency medical care. The Medical Director shall:
  - a. Be regularly assigned to the Emergency Department
  - b. Have experience and knowledge in Base Hospital radio operations.
  - c. Be responsible for the overall medical control and supervision of the ALS program within the Base Hospital's area of responsibility including review of patient care records, paramedic education through tape review and annual skills refresher training, and continuous quality improvement activities.
  - d. Be responsible for reporting deficiencies in patient care to the EMS Agency.
  - e. Attend Emergency Medical Advisory Committee and any other committees as deemed necessary by the EMS Medical Director.
  - f. Provide Emergency Department staff education.
5. There shall be a written agreement between the Base Hospital and the Santa Barbara County EMS Agency indicating the commitment of hospital administration, medical staff, and emergency department staff to meet requirements for program participation as specified by State regulations and Santa Barbara County EMS Agency policies and procedures.
6. The Santa Barbara County EMS Agency shall review its contract with each Base Hospital at least every five years.
7. The Santa Barbara County EMS Agency may deny, suspend, or revoke the approval of a Base Hospital for failure to comply with any applicable policies, procedures or regulations.