

	COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY	Document #	5001.04
	PROGRAM DOCUMENT: Equipment and Supply Shortages	Draft Date:	03/05/13
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EMS Medical Director

EMS Administrator

Purpose:

- A. To provide direction to prehospital provider agencies in Sacramento County on the appropriate notifications and procedures for an acute equipment or supply shortage or when it is anticipated that an equipment or supply shortage is likely to occur.

Authority:

- A. California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5
- B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

Policy:

- A. This policy applies only to instances when an equipment or supply shortage is the result of a manufacturers recall, manufacturers back order, or is otherwise confirmed to be unavailable from routine EMS supply vendor sources. EMS prehospital provider agencies in Sacramento County are encouraged to maintain relationships with multiple vendor sources when possible in order to prevent or minimize disruption to the delivery of prehospital care. Prehospital provider agencies shall attempt to procure items for any reasonably available vendor source prior to notifying the Sacramento County Emergency Medical Services Agency (SCEMSA) and requesting assistance or direction. However, this notification shall be made timely enough to allow for appropriate action and direction by the SCEMSA prior to impacting prehospital patient care.

Protocol:

- A. If a prehospital provider agency becomes aware of a potential supply or equipment shortage beyond their control, they shall first attempt to mitigate the situation utilizing the following means:
 1. Attempt to procure the identified equipment or supplies from reasonable available alternate vendor sources.
 2. Complete a full inventory of the identified equipment or supplies (including restock supplies, back up vehicles and any other storage location) and rotate available stock to in service vehicles.
- B. In the event of an acute equipment or supply shortage (i.e. manufacturer recall), the provider agency shall immediately notify the SCEMSA for appropriate direction.
- C. Once the SCEMSA is notified by a prehospital provider agency of an actual or potential equipment or supply shortage, any of the following actions may be implemented:

1. Approve a temporary policy variance allowing the prehospital provider agency to utilize the identified equipment or supplies in an alternate method, preparation, or concentration.
2. Approve a temporary policy variance allowing the prehospital provider agency to stock less than the minimum required inventory of the identified equipment or supplies.
3. Approve a temporary policy variance allowing the prehospital provider agency to utilize appropriate substitute equipment or supplies.
4. Other direction determined by the SCEMSA Medical Director.
- D. Any policy variance requested from and approved by the SCEMSA will only be on a temporary basis and will only apply to the identified equipment or supplies. Prehospital provider agencies shall continually attempt to procure the identified equipment or supplies and shall keep the SCEMSA updated as to the status of this procurement on a regular basis and/or as requested.
- E. When notified of an acute or potential equipment or supply shortage that has the potential to affect multiple prehospital provider agencies in Sacramento County, the SCEMSA will notify appropriate providers as soon as possible and will provide any necessary direction.