

	<b>COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO</b> EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY	Document #	2529.01
	<u>PROGRAM DOCUMENT:</u>  <b>Stroke Center Designation</b>	Initial Date:	01/03/19
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Signature on File

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 EMS Medical Director

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 EMS Administrator

**Purpose:**

- A. To establish requirements for receiving hospital designation as a Stroke Center in Sacramento County.

**Authority:**

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

**Definitions:**

- A. **SCEMSA:** Sacramento County Emergency Medical Services Agency
- B. **Primary Stroke Center (PSC):** A hospital that stabilizes and treats acute stroke patients providing initial acute care, and may transfer to one or more higher level of care centers when clinically warranted. This is a hospital approved to receive patients from the 911 system and is certified as a Primary Stroke Center by The Joint Commission. A Primary Stroke Center has been designated as such by the SCEMSA.
- C. **Thrombectomy Capable Stroke Center (TCSC):** A PSC with the ability to perform mechanical thrombectomy for the ischemic stroke patient. This is a hospital approved to receive patients from the 911 system and is certified as a Thrombectomy Capable Stroke Center by The Joint Commission. A Thrombectomy Capable Stroke Center has been designated as such by the SCEMSA.
- D. **Comprehensive Stroke Center (CSC):** A hospital with specific abilities to receive and treat the most complex stroke cases and provide the highest level of care for stroke patients. This is a hospital approved to receive patients from the 911 system and is certified as a Comprehensive Stroke Center by The Joint Commission. A Comprehensive Stroke Center has been designated as such by the SCEMSA.
- E. **Stroke Critical Care System:** A subspecialty care component of the EMS system developed by a local EMS agency. This critical care system links prehospital and hospital care to deliver treatment to stroke patients who potentially require immediate medical or surgical intervention. The Stroke Centers work collaboratively with emergency medical services (EMS) system partners to establish and support an optimal system of stroke care in the community.

**Policy:**

**1. Stroke Center (SC) Designation**

Designation as a SC is open to all receiving hospitals in Sacramento County that can meet criteria for designation.

- A. Application Process

1. Interested receiving hospitals may apply for SC designation by submitting a complete SC designation application packet to the SCEMSA. Designation application packets are available through the SCEMSA.
2. Submit applicable designation fees to support stroke system of care activities. Payment may be made by centralized regional hospital systems when existing processes for payment are in place by that system.
3. Meet SC designation criteria and contractual requirements.

**B. SC Designation Criteria**

Facilities seeking consideration for initial and ongoing (renewal) Stroke Center Designation for Sacramento County shall meet the PSC Designation requirements as defined by California Title 22 Regulations, Division 9, chapter 7.2. In addition, prospective SC designated facilities shall meet all supplemental requirements as defined in the designation agreement between SCEMSA and the SC designated facility. Any facility applying for SC designation in Sacramento County shall provide approved documentation to confirm they meet the minimum requirements. These documents shall be made available to the LEMSA upon request.

Additional designation requirements include:

1. The hospital is certified by The Joint Commission as a Primary Stroke Center.
2. Continuous availability of stroke related resources twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.
3. All SC's must enter into a written agreement with SCEMSA prior to designation. The written agreement details the specific obligations of all parties responsible for the management of stroke patient care.
4. Agree to accept all pre-hospital patients meeting acute stroke triage criteria and all acute stroke patients transferred from other non-SC designated hospitals.
5. Active participation in / with:
  - SCEMSA data collection
  - SCEMSA quality improvement programs
  - Outreach programs with evidence of community education to reduce cardiovascular disease and stroke
  - SCEMSA Stroke Review Committee
  - Stroke related EMS education for prehospital providers

**C. SC Designation Process and Term**

1. Initial SC designation will be awarded to a hospital following satisfactory review of all evidence to show compliance with this policy and upon completion of an informational site survey conducted by the SCEMSA.
2. The SC designation term shall be not more than three (3) years, as specified in the written agreement between the SC and the County.

**D. SC Renewal Process and Term**

1. SC's who maintain compliance with SC designation criteria will be eligible for automatic renewal of designation.
2. Renewal requires maintaining a written agreement and submission of annual designation fees.

**E. Loss of Designation**

1. The inability to meet and maintain SC designation as defined in this policy and the written agreement is criteria for loss of designation.

F. SC Levels of Care

1. Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Centers (TCSC)

Hospitals seeking Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Center Designation status will meet all of the previously stated requirements for SC Designation in Sacramento County. In addition, TCSC's will meet requirements outlined specifically for TCSC Designation status in California Title 22, Division 9, chapter 7.2. Prospective TCSC designated facilities shall meet all supplemental requirements as defined in the designation agreement between SCEMSA and the SC designated facility.

2. Comprehensive Stroke Centers (CSC)

Hospitals seeking Comprehensive Stroke Center Designation status will meet all of the previously stated requirements for SC Designation in Sacramento County. In addition, CSC's will meet requirements outlined specifically for CSC Designation status in California Title 22, Division 9, chapter 7.2. Prospective CSC designated facilities shall meet all supplemental requirements as defined in the designation agreement between SCEMSA and the SC designated facility.