



# COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Elsa Mendoza Jimenez, Director of Health

Administration      Animal Services      Behavioral Health      Clinic Services  
Emergency Medical Services      Environmental Health      Public Administrator/Public Guardian      Public Health

Date: June 23, 2022  
To: Monterey County EMS Service Providers  
From: Monterey County EMS Agency  
Subject: **Update to Guidance Regarding Authorizations Related to the Treatment of Patients Impacted by COVID-19 and Influenza**

**\*\*\* This Memo Supersedes the Guidance Issued on May 6, 2022 \*\*\***

On June 22, 2022, the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) released updated guidance related to scope of practice expansions for the treatment of patients impacted by COVID-19 and Influenza. The relevant scope of practice additions in Monterey County are:

- Conducting oropharyngeal and/or nasopharyngeal COVID-19 and influenza testing.
- Administering COVID-19 and influenza vaccinations to individuals greater than 5 years of age.

The latest communication from EMSA states that the authorizations for EMTs, AEMTs, and Paramedics to provide these services “**are in effect for the duration of the emergency.**” Additionally, EMSA’s guidance expands the age range eligible for vaccine administration by approved EMS personnel to “all persons 6 months of age and older.”

The guidance set forth by EMSA will impact the scope of practice in Monterey County in the following ways:

1. Authorized EMTs, AEMTs, and Paramedics may now continue to conduct testing and administer vaccinations for COVID-19 and/or influenza until the end of the state of emergency or until EMSA issues further guidance.
2. Those EMS service provider organizations that have received additional authorization from the Monterey County EMS Agency to administer vaccinations to persons between 5 and 12 years of age may now expand their programs to vaccinate all persons 6 months of age and older. Those organizations that have not received this additional authorization may continue to administer vaccinations to persons 12 years of age and older.

The EMS Agency will update the relevant policies as needed to reflect this guidance. EMS service provider organizations interested in expanding their vaccination programs to include pediatric patients, may obtain information regarding the requirements for authorization from the EMS Agency’s website. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the EMS Agency at [EMSAdmin@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:EMSAdmin@co.monterey.ca.us) or (831) 755-5013.

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

10901 GOLD CENTER DR., SUITE 400  
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670  
(916) 322-4336 FAX (916) 324-2875



**DATE:** June 22, 2022

**TO:** Local EMS Agency Administrators and Medical Directors

**FROM:** Elizabeth Basnett, EMEDM  
Acting Director, EMS Authority

Hernando Garzon, MD  
Acting Medical Director, EMS Authority

**SUBJECT:** POLICY UPDATE: STATE OF EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION, EXECUTIVE ORDER [N-11-22](#), DATED JUNE 17, 2022

Pursuant to Governor Gavin Newsom's, State of Emergency [Proclamation](#), dated March 4 2020, Executive Order [N-11-22](#), dated June 17, 2022, and Business and Profession Code Section Chapter 1.5, [section 900](#) related to the COVID-19 state of emergency, the Director of the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) may permit out-of-state medical personnel to render COVID-19 medical services and may waive any professional licensing, certification, and scope of practice of Chapter 2, 3 and 4 of Division 9 of the California Health and Safety Code (HSC), including accompanying regulations.

The following authorizations are in **effect for the duration of the emergency**.

**Out-of-State Medical Personnel:**

Any out-of-state personnel, including, but not limited to, medical personnel, entering California to assist in preparing for, responding to, mitigating the effects of, and recovering from COVID-19 shall be permitted to provide services in the same manner as prescribed in Government Code [section 179.5](#), with respect to licensing and certification when approved by the EMSA.

EMSA will only accept written requests for out-of-state medical personnel authorization from approved California medical facilities (hospitals, doctor offices, alternate care sites, health care businesses) and telehealth agencies contracted with a California medical facility or a staffing agency providing staffing to California medical facilities that are unable to secure sufficient staffing from California and intend to utilize these out-of-state resources.

To submit a request for out-of-state personnel authorization, please complete the *Request for Temporary Recognition of Out-Of-State Medical Personnel During a State*

of Emergency [form](#).

For additional information or questions regarding out-of-state personnel authorizations, please email the EMSA at [COVID19@emsa.ca.gov](mailto:COVID19@emsa.ca.gov).

**Paramedic licensees are authorized to do the following:**

- Perform their current scope of practice in hospitals, medical facilities, alternate care sites, shelter care sites, in-home settings, or any additional setting (static sites) approved by the director of the Authority for purposes of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Conduct oropharyngeal and/or nasopharyngeal COVID-19 and Influenza testing.
- Provide COVID-19 and Influenza vaccinations to all persons 6 months of age and older based on U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) and U.S. Food and Drug Administration ([FDA](#)) guidelines.
  - Participating local emergency medical service agencies (LEMSAs) shall continue to coordinate with local public health officials to ensure compliance and coordination with local vaccination programs. The LEMSAs shall ensure specialized training is conducted, and treatment protocols are updated, for this special patient population. The training shall include, but not be limited to, allergy or anaphylaxis complications, pediatric dosing, and lateral thigh intramuscular injection site considerations. The LEMSAs shall also ensure local trainings, policies, and procedures are updated to reflect the modification to the COVID-19 vaccination scope of practice.
  - LEMSAs shall have policies in place to ensure only paramedics or healthcare workers are responsible for preparing vaccines for administration.
- Conduct Monoclonal Antibody administrations, and/or monitoring, when overseen by a Nurse and/or Physician. Paramedic shall receive training and education in therapies, and administration protocols, etc.

**Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certified personnel are authorized to do the following with LEMSA accreditation:**

- Perform their current scope of practice in hospitals, medical facilities, alternate care sites, shelter care sites, in-home settings, or any additional setting (static sites) for purposes of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Provide COVID-19 and Influenza vaccinations to all persons 6 months of age and older based on U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) and U.S. Food and Drug Administration ([FDA](#)) guidelines.

- LEMSAs approved for Paramedic, AEMT, and EMT COVID-19 Vaccine Administration shall limit AEMTs and EMTs to COVID-19 vaccine administration only. AEMTs and EMTs are not permitted to mix or draw up COVID-19 vaccines for administration.
- LEMSAs shall have policies in place to ensure only paramedics or healthcare workers with a higher scope of practice are responsible for preparing vaccines for administration. AEMTs and EMTs shall continue to administer the COVID-19 vaccines to patients and assist with other aspects of vaccine campaigns as defined in LEMSA policies and procedure.
- Conduct oropharyngeal and/or nasopharyngeal COVID-19 and Influenza testing.

**NOTE:**

- All prior waivers associated with EMS personnel licensing, certification, training, and testing shall remain in **effect only until June 30, 2022**; at which time they will be **terminated**.
- Patient transports to alternate destinations are only authorized for those programs pre-approved to do so as part of [California's Community Paramedicine and Transport to Alternate Destination Pilot Program](#).
- Assess and Refer and patient refusal protocols are at the discretion of the LEMSA Medical Director, not related to the emergency proclamation or any executive order.

For additional information or questions regarding EMS personnel licensing, certification, or exams, please email the EMSA at [paramedic@emsa.ca.gov](mailto:paramedic@emsa.ca.gov).

For additional information or questions regarding scope of practice authorizations, please email the EMSA at [scopeofpractice@emsa.ca.gov](mailto:scopeofpractice@emsa.ca.gov).



Elizabeth Basnett, EMEDM  
Acting Director, Emergency Medical Services Authority



Hernando Garzon, MD  
Acting Medical Director, Emergency Medical Services Authority