



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: January 11, 2023
To: Monterey County EMS Service Providers
From: Monterey County EMS Agency
Subject: **Policy and Practice Update: Termination of the COVID-19 State of Emergency Effective February 28, 2023**

Governor Gavin Newsom announced that the COVID-19 State of Emergency will end on February 28, 2023. In response to the termination of the State of Emergency, the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) issued a memorandum outlining the resulting policy changes (see [EMSA Memorandum dated October 17, 2022](#)). The Monterey County EMS Agency has reviewed the impact of these changes on local policies and practices. The following changes will take place, effective February 28th, 2023.

COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccination Administration

- Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) may not administer COVID-19 or influenza vaccinations.
- Monterey County EMS System Policy #4513 (Paramedic Vaccination Administration) is rescinded.
- Monterey County EMS System Policy #4514 (EMT Vaccination Administration) is rescinded.

COVID-19 and Influenza Testing

- Paramedics and EMTs may not conduct oropharyngeal and/or nasopharyngeal COVID-19 and influenza testing.
- Monterey County EMS System Policy #2351 (Specimen Collection – COVID-19 Nasal Swab) is rescinded.

Practice in Static Settings/Sites

- Paramedics and EMTs may not 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).

Authorization of Out-Of-State Medical Personnel

- Health care providers licensed out-of-state who received the EMSA's authorization to practice in the state without a license issued by the pertinent California licensing Board will no longer be permitted to practice.

Paramedic Skills Competency Verification

- All paramedic service providers and Paramedics accredited in Monterey County shall comply with Monterey County EMS System Policy #6090 (Annual Skills Maintenance Verification and Policy Review).
- Each Paramedic reaccrediting in Monterey County shall submit a completed Monterey County EMS Form #6091 (Annual Skills and Policy Review Form) for each year of the reaccreditation cycle after the expiration of the State of Emergency.

Quality Improvement Plan Submission

- Annual quality improvement (QI) plan updates from providers and base hospitals are due no later than May 30, 2023 (90 days from the date of cessation of the COVID-19 State of Emergency). Data submitted with this update should cover October to December 2019 and the full calendar years of 2020, 2021, and 2022.
- Going forward, all provider and base hospital annual QI plan updates will be due on January 31st of each year and will include data for the prior calendar year.

EMS Advisory Committee Meetings

- The end of the COVID-19 State of Emergency also brings about the suspension of A.B. 361's modifications to the Brown Act's rules and restrictions surrounding the use of teleconferencing to conduct meetings.
- Beginning with the March 2023 meetings, committee members of the EMS Agency's Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC), Medical Advisory Subcommittee (MAC), and the EMS Operations Subcommittee (OPS) will be required to attend all meetings in person.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the EMS Agency at EMSAdmin@co.monterey.ca.us or (831) 755-5013.