

APPROVED: Signature On File In EMS Office  
Executive Director  
  
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Medical Director

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**TRAUMA MUTUAL AID AND COORDINATION WITH NEIGHBORING  
SYSTEMS**

I. AUTHORITY

Division 2.5, California Health and Safety Code, Sections 1798.162, 1798.163, 1798.170, California Code of Regulations Section 100255.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. "Service area" means that geographic area defined by the local EMS agency in its trauma care system plan as the area served by a designated trauma center.

III. PURPOSE

To ensure that major trauma patients are treated at an appropriate facility, regardless of geopolitical boundaries and to facilitate coordination with neighboring systems.

IV. POLICY

A. Extraneous factors, such as geopolitical boundaries, will not be considered in the development of service areas. Stanislaus County EMS Agency will coordinate its trauma care system with those in neighboring EMS systems -both in California and in other states - in order to ensure that patients are transported to the closest appropriate facility. Written mutual aid agreements will be executed as necessary to ensure coordination with neighboring systems.

1. Stanislaus County EMS Agency will maintain contact with neighboring EMS agencies in order to monitor the status of trauma care systems in surrounding jurisdictions.
2. Where it appears that a service area within the Stanislaus County EMS region is closer to a designated trauma center in another EMS system, Stanislaus County EMS Agency staff will contact the appropriate EMS agency to seek an appropriate trauma service area boundary. This will include trauma centers, which are outside of California.

3. Where it appears that patients in another EMS system are closer to the Stanislaus County EMS Agency designated trauma center, Stanislaus County EMS Agency will contact the appropriate EMS agency.
- B. Where patients from the Stanislaus County EMS Agency region are transported to a trauma center in another EMS system, Stanislaus County EMS Agency will seek patient information which is equivalent to that provided to the Stanislaus County EMS Agency by trauma centers within SCEMSA region.
- C. Where patients from another EMS system are transported to a Stanislaus County EMS Agency designated trauma center, Stanislaus County EMS Agency will attempt to provide patient information which is equivalent to that provided by that system's designated trauma center.
- D. Hospital and ambulance providers within the Stanislaus County EMS Agency region are encouraged to cooperate with other EMS agencies in data collection and evaluation efforts of patients who are served by the Stanislaus County EMS Agency's system.