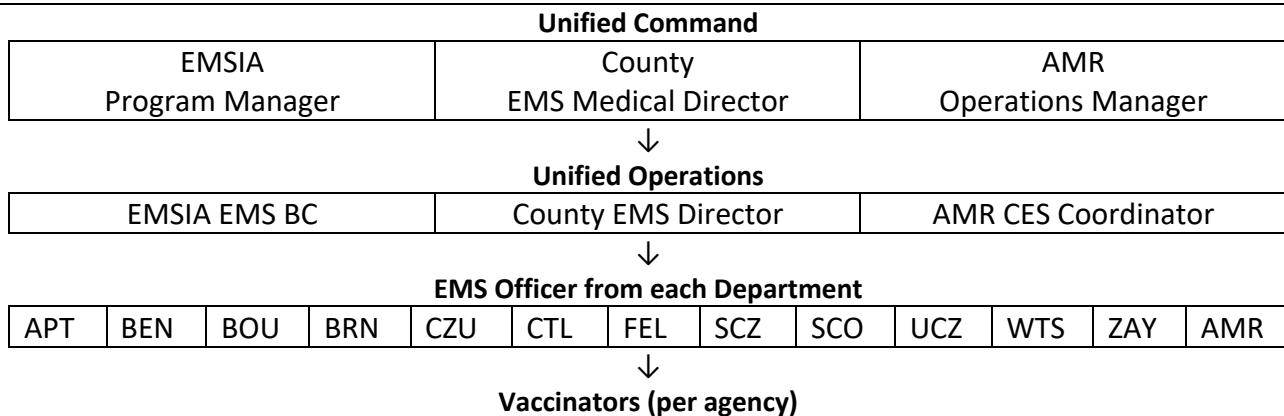




Reference 815: Paramedic Administered Vaccinations

Revision: New
Effective X/X/XX

- II. Scope
 - A. This standard operating procedure (SOP) establishes guidelines by which paramedics in Santa Cruz County will administer specific vaccinations in Santa Cruz County, as approved by EMSA.
- III. Purpose
 - A. The County of Santa Cruz has experienced occasional disease outbreaks. When this occurs, Santa Cruz Public Health officials are concerned about the increased risk to some of our county's most vulnerable members as well as the general public.
 - B. The State of California EMS Authority has authorized an expanded the scope of practice for paramedics to provide immunizations to colleagues and any other group identified in local Public Health Departments' Community Immunization Plans.
 - C. This SOP identifies the procedure by which Santa Cruz County paramedics will be allowed to administer approved vaccine. Once certified as vaccinators, paramedics, for the duration allowed by the State EMSA and the local EMS agency, will be certified to provide vaccinations to those groups identified by the local EMS agency.
- IV. Authorization
 - A. Paramedics are authorized to vaccinate colleagues and other identified populations once the Santa Cruz County EMS Agency has been approved by the State EMSA to allow vaccine administration as an Optional Scope of Practice. This approval remains in place as long as it is allowed by the State EMSA and the Santa Cruz County EMS Agency.
 - B. Paramedics currently working for approved ALS agencies in Santa Cruz County, as permitted by their home agency, may be trained to administer vaccinations. In addition, BLS agencies - volunteer and paid – that employ currently State-licensed paramedics who are accredited and working in other counties may also be trained to provide vaccinations. These paramedics will be sponsored by their Santa Cruz County EMS provider.
 - C. Any agency intent on training paramedics to provide vaccinations must formally communicate this to County EMS in writing, along with a copied notification to the EMSIA EMS Battalion Chief and AMR.
- V. Responsibilities/Command Structure
 - A. The following command structure will guide the planning and implementation of a vaccination program:



Command will be unified, though the County EMS Medical Director will have the final decision on all medical policies. Operations will also be unified, though the County EMS Manager retains the right to approve or disapprove any policy or procedure that carries County EMS sponsorship. Each EMS provider will elect an EMS officer to communicate directly with the Operations Section; this officer will coordinate the vaccination effort internal to his /her respective department/agency.

VI. Vaccination Training

Paramedic certification to administer vaccinations will be granted after paramedics have successfully completed County EMS-approved training. This training will include the following elements:

- View “Paramedic Vaccination Training” Power Point (found in the “vaccination” folder on the EMSIA page of the County Fire Chief’s website)
- Review the document, “Procedure for Vaccine Storage, Distribution and Administration.” (see attachment #1)
- Review Vaccine Information Statements (see attachments #2 and #3)
- Review Vaccination Declination Statements (see attachments #4 -#5)
- Review Vaccination Consent and Tracking Form (see attachment #6)
- Review “Vaccine Refrigeration and Storage Tracking Form” (see attachment #7)
- Review “Vaccine Log” (see attachment #8)
- Review “Vaccine Administration Count” form (see attachment #9)
- Review this SOP
- Complete the Vaccination Post Test (see attachment #10)
- Attend a joint provider/County EMS training to review all steps to this program, including vaccine storage, transportation, administration, and record keeping.

When these training steps have been completed, each agency/department will notify County EMS of those individuals who have been approved to administer Vaccinations.



VII. Vaccination Storage and Transport

- A. Vaccine vials, once distributed by County EMS, will be stored in a centrally located, locked refrigerator. A dedicated refrigerator will be maintained for this purpose and will be equipped with a thermometer for temperature monitoring. The temperature will be kept between 35° and 46° F, with temperature checks every 24 hours recorded on a log sheet (see attachment #7). These stores will be subject to EMS Agency inspection at any time.
- B. Vaccines removed for transport to mass vaccination clinics will be transported in a hard plastic or Styrofoam container that is at least 2 inches thick and equipped with frozen cooling packs. These cooling packs will also contain a thermometer and a barrier to prevent the vaccine from freezing. Vaccine tracking into and out of this refrigerator will be conducted using the "Vaccine Log" (see attachment #8).
- C. Refer to the form, "Procedure for Vaccine Storage, Distribution and Administration" (attachment #1) for the procedural steps for this element of the program.

VIII. Vaccine Administration and Record-Keeping

- A. Injectable vaccine will be administered using accepted standards for the IM administration of medications, with OSHA required PPE/sharps disposal as currently practiced.
- B. Personnel identified to receive the vaccine will review the Vaccine Information Statement (see attachments #2 and #3). They will then fill out either the vaccination consent or declination form. The consent form will be evaluated prior to vaccination to verify that there are no contraindications to vaccination.
- C. The vaccination team will then administer the vaccine and fill out the bottom of the consent form for tracking purposes. Copies of all forms will be submitted to the clinic manager. The form titled, "Vaccine Administration Count" (see attachment #9) will be maintained by each provider and then turned in to County EMS at the end of the program.
- D. Refer to the form, "Procedure for Vaccine Storage, Distribution and Administration" (attachment #1) for the procedural steps for this element of the program.

IX. Rescinding Vaccination Scope

- A. County EMS, in conjunction with the State EMSA, may, at any time, rescind a particular provider's vaccination scope, or this County Optional Scope of Practice in total.

X. Attachments

- A. The following attachments are included/referred to:
 1. Procedure for Vaccine Storage, Distribution, and Administration.
 2. Vaccine Information Statement
 3. Vaccination Declination Statement
 4. Refusal to Sign Declination Statement



5. Consent for Virus Vaccine
6. Vaccine Refrigeration and Storage Tracking Form
7. Vaccine Log
8. Vaccine Administration Count
9. Vaccination Training Post Test