
ALS RESPONDER (# 8006)

1. **ALS PERSONNEL** - In Alameda County, an "ALS responder" is defined as: *An individual who is licensed as a paramedic in the state of California and accredited to practice in Alameda County.*

2. MEDICAL MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 An ALS responder is responsible for the care of the patient after accepting responsibility from the first responder personnel until the care of the patient is turned over to the staff at the receiving hospital (if transported), or until the patient leaves the scene.
- 2.2 Initiate "START" triage if appropriate. (See Policy # 8070 "Multi-Casualty Incident - EMS Response (MCI)")
- 2.3 If it is determined that helicopter transport of the patient might be necessary, activate the air ambulance and secure an appropriate landing zone. (see Policy # 8130 "EMS Aircraft")
- 2.4 A verbal **and** written Patient Care Report (PCR) must be completed for **every** patient, describing the care rendered and given to the staff at the receiving hospital. (exception: see Policy #8070 "Multi-Casualty Incident – EMS Response" and #8040 "Refusal of Service").
- 2.5 The PCR should include a chief complaint, a general assessment, a physical assessment and emergency care rendered by the ALS responder. (see Policy # 8230 "Patient Care Report Form").

3. PATIENT CARE

3.1 The following should be performed for each patient during an emergency response:

- 3.1.1 A physical assessment and initiation of emergency first aid, basic life support, and/or advanced life support, as necessary.
- 3.1.2 A PCR must be completed for **every** patient (exception: Multi-Casualty Incident and Refusal of Service)

3.2 ALS responders are held to the following standards during patient care:

- 3.2.1 American Heart Association, or an approved equivalent, for:
 - ▶ CPR
 - ▶ Basic Life Support (healthcare provider)
 - ▶ Advanced Cardiac Life Support
 - ▶ Emergency Cardiac Care
- 3.2.2 PEPP (Pediatric Education for Prehospital Personnel), **or** Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), **or** Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC), **or** an approved equivalent.
- 3.2.3 "S.T.A.R.T. Triage"
- 3.2.4 OSHA and CAL-OSHA for infection control.
- 3.2.5 Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS) **or** PreHospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS), **or** an approved equivalent.
- 3.2.6 Approved training program curriculum for emergency first aid and patient assessment
- 3.2.7 Alameda County EMS policies for patient care not covered by, or in addition to the above.