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## ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN

No. 20-BUL-013

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**TO:** Contra Costa County 911 Field Provider Agencies

**FROM:** Dr. David Goldstein, EMS Medical Director 

**DATE:** April 24, 2020

**SUBJECT: Expanded Scope in Static Environments**

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During the COVID-19 emergency, Contra Costa County EMTs and Paramedics have been granted expanded scope of practice to administer medications and perform phlebotomy in a static environment. Medication administration includes assisting patients in taking their own prescribed medications or administering medications ordered by a licensed physician or mid-level practitioner (NP, PA). Static environments include, but are not limited to skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, clinics, and alternative care sites. The intention behind the expanded scope is to augment capabilities at health facilities that are facing staffing shortages, provide support to congregate facilities that are vulnerable to the displacement of significant groups of people, and/or provide staffing to newly identified alternative care sites looking to assemble a workforce.

During the emergency, the following personnel will be approved to practice within this scope of practice:

1. Emergency Medical Technicians employed by a Contra Costa County permitted/contracted provider.
2. Accredited Paramedics employed by a Contra Costa County permitted/contracted provider.
3. EMT or Paramedic will not have clinical actions in progress (i.e. clinical education assignment – active, performance improvement plan or remediation plan).

We are asking healthcare facilities that have need for staffing to submit resource requests through the Medical Health Branch of county's Emergency Operations Center (EOC). If your agency would be willing to commit a cadre of EMTs and/or paramedics to fill gaps where needed, please contact the LEMSA (contact info below).

If your agency has already formed a partnership with a facility and you would like to implement this expanded scope program, please submit the following to the Contra Costa County EMS agency:

1. EMS provider agency Medical Director and if applicable, physician(s), mid-level practitioner (NP, PA), or nurse providing on-site medical oversight/supervision.
2. Program overview, including location(s), expanded scope skills intended to be utilized, and description of the level of supervision on-site.
3. Requirements for consideration including, but not limited to, EMT/paramedic experience level.
4. Outline of training process and estimated time to completion. This is particularly important if paramedics will be administering IV/IM medications that are not currently administered in Contra Costa County's EMS system. Please include any resource materials that you intend to utilize. Paramedics shall not administer IV medications that involve infusion calculations or the use of pumps. If you intend for personnel to administer ocular or transdermal medications, please include the following videos respectfully:
  - a. Ocular Medication administration training:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6prjTrzJAVg>
  - b. Transdermal medication administration:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=laiTrC5UVSo>
5. Training attendance verification (Sign-in sheet)
6. Patient encounter documentation requirements
7. QA/QI Plan

Questions can be directed to: Mia Fairbanks at [mfairban@cchealth.org](mailto:mfairban@cchealth.org) Joanny All at [Jall@cchealth.org](mailto:Jall@cchealth.org)

