



EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY SHORTAGES

PURPOSE

To provide direction to Prehospital Provider Agencies in the Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency (YEMSA) Region on the appropriate notifications and procedures for an acute equipment or supply shortage or when it is anticipated that an equipment or supply shortage is likely to occur.

AUTHORITY

Health & Safety Code, Division 2.5
California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

POLICY

- I. This policy applies only to instances when an equipment or supply shortage is the result of a manufacturers recall, manufacturers back order, or is otherwise confirmed to be unavailable from routine Emergency Medical Service (EMS) supply vendor sources. EMS Prehospital Provider Agencies in YEMSA are encouraged to maintain relationships with multiple vendor sources when possible in order to prevent or minimize disruption to the delivery of prehospital care in the YEMSA Region.
- II. Prehospital Provider Agencies shall attempt to procure items from any reasonably available vendor source prior to notifying YEMSA and requesting assistance or direction. However, this notification shall be made timely enough to allow for appropriate action and direction by YEMSA prior to impacting prehospital patient care.

PROCEDURE

- I. If a Prehospital Provider Agency becomes aware of a potential supply or equipment shortage beyond their control, they shall first attempt to mitigate the situation utilizing the following means:
 - A. Attempt to procure the identified equipment or supplies from reasonably available alternate vendor sources.
 - B. Complete a full inventory of the identified equipment or supplies (including restock supplies, back up vehicles and any other storage location) and rotate available stock to in service vehicles.
- II. In the event of an acute equipment or supply shortage (i.e. manufacturer recall), the Provider Agency shall immediately notify YEMSA for appropriate direction.
- III. Once YEMSA is notified by a Prehospital Provider Agency of an actual or potential equipment or supply shortage, any of the following actions may be implemented:
 - A. Assist the Prehospital Provider Agency in identifying other sources to procure the identified equipment or supplies.
 - B. Approve a temporary policy variance allowing the Prehospital Provider Agency to utilize the identified equipment or supplies in an alternate method, preparation, or concentration.



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- C. Approve a temporary policy variance allowing the Prehospital Provider Agency to stock less than the minimum required inventory of the identified equipment or supplies.
 - D. Approve a temporary policy variance allowing the Prehospital Provider Agency to utilize appropriate substitute equipment or supplies.
 - E. Other direction determined by the YEMSA Medical Director.
- IV. Any policy variance requested from and approved by YEMSA will only be on a temporary basis and will only apply to the identified equipment or supplies. Prehospital Provider Agencies shall continually attempt to procure the identified equipment or supplies and shall keep YEMSA updated as to the status of this procurement on a regular basis and/or as requested.
- V. When notified of an acute or potential equipment or supply shortage that has the potential to affect multiple Prehospital Provider Agencies in the YEMSA Region, YEMSA will notify the appropriate providers as soon as possible (ASAP) and will provide any necessary direction.