



# Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency Procedures

Revised Date: September 1, 2018

<b>END-TIDAL CARBON DIOXIDE (EtCO<sub>2</sub>) MONITORING</b>	
<b>Adult</b>	<b>Pediatric</b>
Normal EtCO <sub>2</sub> values are 35 – 45 mmHg	
<b>Indications</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Respiratory distress or failure</li><li>• Bronchospasm</li><li>• Suspected acidosis in breathing patients</li><li>• Patients with head injuries</li><li>• Shock</li><li>• Confirmation of correct placement of an advanced airway</li><li>• Monitor the effectiveness of CPR during cardiac arrest</li><li>• Verification of Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC) in cardiac arrest</li><li>• Assist in the determination to terminate resuscitative efforts</li></ul>	
<b>ALS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attach appropriate EtCO<sub>2</sub> sampling sensor to the patient, BVM, or advanced airway</li><li>• Verify waveform on the screen</li><li>• Verify numerical value on the screen</li></ul>	
<b>Considerations</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any loss of EtCO<sub>2</sub> detection or waveform may indicate an airway problem and should be immediately addressed and thoroughly documented.</li><li>• EtCO<sub>2</sub> readings may be unreliable if the patient is in shock or has poor perfusion.</li><li>• EtCO<sub>2</sub> levels that rise from normal baseline to 40 mmHg or above generally indicates hypoventilation is occurring.</li></ul>	