



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA EMS, INC.

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Memorandum

Date: June 22, 2017

To: EMS Provider Agencies, Training Programs, CE Providers, Certificate Holders

From: Eric M. Rudnick, MD, FACEP, FAAEM
Medical Director

Subject: Important Updates: A) Regarding Emergency Medical Responders (EMR)
B) Patient Care Records (PCR)

Nor-Cal EMS has updated/added policies and procedures pertaining to:

- ✓ EMR Certification and Recertification requirements
- ✓ First Responder to EMR transition requirements
- ✓ PCR Completion

Contact Nor-Cal EMS with any questions at 530-229-3979 or via email at mail.norcalems.org

Please share this information with your staff and other interested parties.

- **EMR Certification and Recertification:**

The number of hours required for EMR training has been changed. Effective July 1, 2017 EMR initial certification will be a minimum of 40 hours or 48 hours including CPR. For EMR recertification, a 12 hour refresher course or 12 CEs are required. If certification has lapsed more than six (6) months, but less than 12 months, an additional 12 hours of CEs are required (for a total of 24 hours of CEs). For a lapse greater than 12 months, an entire EMR course will be required.

- **First Responder to EMR Transition:**

In a letter dated October 12, 2015, we outlined the transition process from First Responder (FR) to EMR. During this First Responder sun-setting process, some First Responders have already expired and not taken steps toward the transition to EMR. If the First Responder certificate holder has been expired for less than 6 months, they may take the First Responder to EMR Transition course (24 hours CEs). If First Responder certification has been expired for 6 months or greater the provider (certificate holder) must take a full EMR course (40 CE hours). Any First Responder whose certification is expired at the end of the sunset period (March 31, 2018), must complete a full EMR course.

- **Patient Care Record (PCR) Completion:**

This relates to all data entry into an electronic or paper patient care record. Only EMS (Chapter 1.5 of Health and Safety Code) Public Safety or greater certified, accredited and/or licensed personnel may document information into a PCR.