

	3224	Unified Paramedic Optional Scope of Practice for Qualified Transport Programs
Nor-Cal EMS Policy & Procedure Manual	Name of the Section	
Effective Date: 01/01/2025	Next Revision: 01/01/2028	
Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR	SIGNATURE ON FILE	

Authority

1. California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 2 § 1797.67 & 1797.88, Chapter 6 § 1798.102, 1798.150, 1798.170 and 1798.172.
2. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4, § 100146

Purpose

To specify the unified paramedic optional scope of practice for qualified transport programs and establish provider requirements and personnel qualifications for utilization.

Definitions

Refer to the “EMS Aircraft Definitions” policy for the definition of terms used in this policy.

Policy

1. The unified paramedic optional scope of practice procedures include:
 - A. Pediatric intubation.
 - B. Rapid sequence intubation/induction (RSI) medication administration, including sedatives, paralytics, analgesics and induction agents.
 - C. Utilization of Supraglottic airway devices.
 - D. Ventilator initiation, maintenance and management.
2. Prehospital service provider agencies shall meet the following requirements to be approved by Nor-Cal EMS as a qualified transport program:
 - A. Have a current Nor-Cal EMS air ambulance provider agreement.
 - B. Obtain/maintain CAMTS ECC accreditation.
 - C. Have a qualified transport program medical director
 - D. Utilize all unified paramedic optional scope of practice procedures.
 - E. Provide all required optional scope of practice training, education and competency testing, which has been reviewed/approved by Nor-Cal EMS.
 - F. Allow only qualified flight paramedics to utilize the unified paramedic optional scope of practice.
 - G. Have a unified paramedic optional scope of practice QI program, which has been reviewed/approved by Nor-Cal EMS.
 - H. Collect/submit unified paramedic optional scope of practice data to Nor-Cal EMS. Data submission elements/frequency shall be established, and modified as necessary, by Nor-Cal EMS pursuant to EMS Medical Directors Association of California (EMDAC) and California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) requirements.
3. Paramedic personnel shall meet the following requirements to be approved by Nor-Cal EMS to utilize the unified paramedic optional scope of practice:
 - A. Have a current California paramedic license.
 - B. Have a current Nor-Cal EMS paramedic accreditation.
 - C. Completed a minimum of 200 hours of training conducted by the qualified transport program and meet the FP-C certified/FP-C in training requirements.
 - D. Follow the qualified transport program provider’s policies/protocols for utilization of unified paramedic optional scope of practice procedures.
 - E. Remain competent/proficient in the unified paramedic optional scope of practice by passing required competency testing as follows:
 - a. Pediatric Intubation: Quarterly (every 3 months)
 - b. RSI: Quarterly (every 3 months)
 - c. Supraglottic Airway: Quarterly (every 3 months)
 - d. Ventilator Use: Annually
 - F. Be employed by a qualified transport program provider and functioning under the oversight of this provider during any transport where the unified paramedic optional scope of practice is utilized.

- G. Be partnered with a qualified transport nurse, qualified transport program medical director or qualified transport program physician during any transport where the unified optional scope of practice is utilized.
- 4. Unified paramedic optional scope of practice medical control:
 - A. Medical control for the utilization of the unified paramedic optional scope of practice shall remain the primary responsibility of Nor-Cal EMS, according to established Nor-Cal EMS policies/protocols, and is delivered in conjunction with the qualified transport program provider's policies/protocols specific to the utilization of the unified paramedic optional scope of practice procedures.
 - B. During an Interfacility transport, online medical control may be obtained from the sending physician, receiving physician, Qualified Transport Program Medical Director, or Qualified Transport Program Physician as necessary.