

	1000C	<b>Paramedic Scope of Practice</b>
Nor-Cal EMS Policy & Procedure Manual	Treatment Guidelines	
Effective Date: 01/1/2026	Next Revision: 01/2029	
Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR	SIGNATURE ON FILE	

**Purpose:**

To define the scope of practice for Paramedics in the Nor-Cal EMS Region.

**Policy:**

A paramedic may perform any activity identified in the scope of practice of an EMT, or an Advanced EMT, without requiring a separate certification. Activities listed in the ‘Paramedic Basic Scope of Practice’ section of this policy may be performed by paramedic students or paramedics under the following conditions:

- 1) Paramedic students currently enrolled in an approved paramedic training program, who are under the direct supervision of an approved paramedic field preceptor in the prehospital setting, or who are under the direct supervision of a physician, registered nurse, or physician assistant in the hospital setting.
- 2) California licensed and Nor-Cal EMS accredited paramedics who are part of the organized EMS system, functioning under the oversight of a Nor-Cal EMS approved paramedic prehospital service provider agency as follows:
  - a) Under the direct supervision of a physician, registered nurse, or physician assistant in the hospital setting for the purposes of CE or while working in a rural hospital pursuant to § 1797.195 of the California Health and Safety Code.
  - b) Standing order patient care specified in Nor-Cal EMS approved policies/protocols.
  - c) Base/modified base hospital physician or MICN on-line medical direction.
  - d) Physician direction as specified in Nor-Cal EMS **Outside Provider Policy 1214**.
  - e) Physician interfacility transport written orders as specified in Nor-Cal EMS **Interfacility Transfer Policy 4104**.

Activities listed in the ‘Paramedic Optional Scope of Practice’ section of this policy, as applicable to the specific provider agency, may be performed by paramedic students under the conditions indicated above, or by California licensed and Nor-Cal EMS accredited paramedics who are part of the organized EMS system and are functioning under the oversight of an Nor-Cal EMS approved paramedic optional skills provider.

**Paramedic Basic Scope of Practice:**

- 1) Utilize electrocardiographic devices and monitor electrocardiograms, including 12-lead electrocardiograms.
- 2) Perform Defibrillation, Synchronized Cardioversion, and External Cardiac Pacing.
- 3) Visualize the airway by using a laryngoscope and remove foreign bodies with Magill forceps.
- 4) Perform pulmonary ventilation by using an I-gel LMA device, stomal intubation, or adult oral endotracheal intubation.
- 5) Utilize ventilation devices for Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) including High Flow Nasal Cannula (HFNC).

- 6) Institute IV catheters, saline locks, needles, other cannula, in peripheral veins and monitor/administer medications through Pre-existing Vascular Access Device (PVAD).
- 7) Establish Intraosseous (IO) Access.
- 8) Administer IV or IO glucose solutions or isotonic balanced salt solutions, including Ringer's Lactate solution.
- 9) Obtain Venous Blood Samples
- 10) Establish and Maintain Naso/Oro- Gastric Tubes
- 11) Utilize Automatic Transport Ventilators (ATV)
- 12) Use laboratory devices, including point of care testing, for prehospital screening use to measure lab values including, but not limited to glucose, capnometry, capnography, and carbon monoxide.
- 13) Utilize Valsalva Maneuver.
- 14) Perform Percutaneous Needle Cricothyroidotomy.
- 15) Perform Needle Thoracostomy.
- 16) Monitor Thoracostomy Tubes.
- 17) Monitor and adjust IV solutions containing potassium  $\leq 40$  mEq/L.
- 18) Administer approved medications by the following routes: IV, IO, intramuscular, subcutaneous, inhalation, transcutaneous, rectal, sublingual, endotracheal, intranasal, oral, or topical.
- 19) Administer the following medications per Nor-Cal EMS drug formulary, policies, and treatment guidelines:
  - a) 10% (or oral), 25%, or 50% Dextrose
  - b) Acetaminophen (Oral and IV)
  - c) Activated charcoal
  - d) Adenosine
  - e) Albuterol
  - f) Amiodarone
  - g) Aspirin
  - h) Atropine sulfate
  - i) Beta 2 Bronchodilators
  - j) Calcium Chloride
  - k) Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride
  - l) Epinephrine
  - m) Fentanyl
  - n) Glucagon
  - o) Ipratropium Bromide
  - p) Ibuprofen
  - q) Lidocaine Hydrochloride
  - r) Magnesium Sulfate
  - s) Midazolam
  - t) Morphine Sulfate
  - u) Naloxone Hydrochloride

- v) Nitroglycerin (Tablets, spray)
- w) Normal Saline
- x) Ondansetron
- y) Potassium Infusion
- z) Ringers Lactate
- aa) Sodium Bicarbonate

*State Scope of Practice, MUST Carry Medications:*

- a) Ketamine
- b) Ketorolac
- c) TXA

*All Paramedics MUST be trained; ALS Provider Agency has OPTION to carry:*

- a) Acetaminophen (IV)
- b) Amyl Nitrate Inhalers
- c) Diazepam
- d) Dopamine Hydrochloride
- e) Lorazepam
- f) Olanzapine
- g) Oxytocin (Nor-Cal EMS Requirement)
- h) Pralidoxime Chloride (2-PAM)
- i) Verapamil

### **Paramedic Optional Scope of Practice:**

(Individual ALS agency must obtain Medical Director approval)

- 1) Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS)
- 2) Video Laryngoscope
- 3) Unified Scope for Qualified Providers

### **Perform the following during Interfacility Patient Transports:**

- 1) Monitoring IV Nitroglycerin
- 2) Monitoring IV Heparin
- 3) Monitoring Blood and Blood Products
- 4) Monitoring IV Antibiotics
- 5) Monitoring IV Potassium Chloride
- 6) Initiation and Continuation of High Flow Cannula
- 7) Monitoring Automatic Transport Ventilators (ATV)
- 8) Monitoring Thoracic Drainage System
- 9) Monitoring IV Norepinephrine

### **Critical Care Transport-Paramedic Scope of Practice:**

- 1) Lorazepam- Monitor and adjust infusions during IFT
- 2) Magnesium- Monitor and adjust infusions during IFT

- 3) Nitroglycerine- Monitor and adjust infusions during IFT
- 4) Norepinephrine- Monitor and adjust infusions during IFT
- 5) Glycoprotein Inhibitors- Monitor and adjust infusions during IFT
- 6) Alteplase (tPA)- Monitor infusion during IFT
- 7) Total Parental Nutrition (TPN)- Monitor infusion during IFT
- 8) Sodium Bicarb- Monitor Infusion during IFT
- 9) Medications for Sedation and Analgesia-Monitor infusions and during IFT
- 10) Transport Ventilators- Utilize, monitor and adjust during IFT