

POLICY: 554.44
TITLE: Pain Management

EFFECTIVE: 12/23/20
REVIEW: 12/2025
SUPERCEDES:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES ON FILE IN EMS OFFICE

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PAIN MANAGEMENT

- I. AUTHORITY
Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9
- II. PURPOSE
To serve as a patient treatment standard for EMRs, EMTs, and Paramedics within their scope of practice.
- III. PROTOCOL
Every patient deserves to have his or her pain managed. Consider reassurance, position of comfort, ice and gentle transport as part of pain management. Privacy and separation from parents may benefit adolescents. Do not attempt to completely relieve the patient's pain, but treat aggressively enough to make it bearable.

EMR STANDING ORDERS

Patient Assessment	Circulation, Airway, Breathing. Assess vitals q5 minutes
Oxygen Administration	Provide oxygen if appropriate
Pain Management	Apply ice pack on affected area. Prevent direct skin contact with a barrier between ice pack and skin
Splinting	Splint affected limb in position of comfort

EMT STANDING ORDERS

Note	Must perform items in EMR standing orders if applicable
Pulse Oximetry	Report initial reading to paramedic if applicable

PARAMEDIC STANDING ORDERS	
Note	Must perform items in EMR and EMT standing orders if applicable
Monitor	Treat heart rhythm as appropriate
IV/IO Access	TKO
Morphine	If BP is >90 systolic-5mg initial dose IV/IO. May administer 1 additional dose of 5 mg IV/IO after 10 minutes if pain is not controlled. If no IV/IO access, give a 1-time dose of 5 mg intramuscular.
Fentanyl	I BP is > 90 systolic -50 mcg IV/IO/IN every 5 minutes. Max of 3 doses total

This is the official pain scale to be used in patient assessment and documented on the PCR. Document a minimum of two pain scales (initial and on arrival at hospital).



Clinical PEARLS:

- Morphine is BETTER for Visceral pain; Fentanyl for Somatic pain (try to use them this way if BOTH are carried)
- ETCO2 shall be used and documented when analgesia is given
- Base Physician Order is required for additional analgesia
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