



STROKE READY HOSPITALS

I. AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1798.170.
Medicare Benefits Policy Manual-CMS (2017), Chpt 10.

II. APPLICATION:

This policy defines the mechanism for identifying an Orange County Stroke Ready Hospital that is listed as appropriate to receive patients transported within the Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS) system.

Patients eligible for 9-1-1 field triage to a Stroke Ready Hospital include those who meet OCEMS criteria for triage as an acute ischemic or hemorrhagic cerebral vascular event (OCEMS ALS Standing Order SO-M-25). Trauma related cranial-cerebral events will be managed in the OCEMS Trauma System.

III. OCEMS IDENTIFICATION OF A STROKE READY HOSPITAL:

- A. Hospital is designated as an OCEMS Emergency Receiving Center (ERC) and in good standing,
- B. Hospital submits a written request to the OCEMS Medical Director to receive acute stroke patients.
- C. Hospital must be currently accredited by a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) deeming authority (includes Joint Commission, Det Norske Veritas Healthcare, and Health Facilities Accreditation Program) as a primary or higher level stroke care hospital.

IV. DATA COLLECTION:

For OCEMS to assure efficiency and appropriateness of field triage, transport, and EMS field management of acute stroke victims, data will be reported by each Stroke Ready Hospital to the Orange County Medical Emergency Data System (OC-MEDS) within 10 (ten) days from the time of collection of the last data element as defined in OCEMS Policy # 300.10 (OC-MEDS Documentation Standards) and Policy 650.10 (Stroke Registry Data Dictionary).

V. DEFERMENT OF OCEMS STROKE READY TRIAGE STATUS:

- A. Failure to submit data as described in Section IV of this policy for greater than 30 days will result in removal from the Stroke Ready Hospital destination list for triage of EMS patients suspected of having an acute stroke.
- C. Failure to accept transfer of an acute stroke patient from a community hospital or a primary level accredited Stroke Ready Hospital when accredited as a Comprehensive Stroke Center will result in removal from the Stroke Ready Hospital destination list for triage of EMS patients suspected of having an acute stroke



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