



Serving San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono Counties
Tom Lynch, EMS Administrator
Reza Vaezazizi, MD, Medical Director

Effective Date: December 17, 2020
Supersedes: N/A

ICEMA EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE #2020.12.17

Whereas a State of Emergency exists in San Bernardino County as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

Whereas despite sustained efforts, COVID-19 continues to spread and is impacting all cities and unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County; and

Whereas it is imperative that First Responder agencies and transport providers maximize the number of available resources to maintain the ability to meet the anticipated response needs.

IT IS HERBY DIRECTED THAT:

Until further notice, First Responder agencies and transport providers will utilize “APOD Unusual Events”:

“In response to a major emergency that requires immediate availability of ambulances, the San Bernardino County Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator may give direction to EMS field personnel to immediately transfer patient care to ED medical personnel and return to service to support the EMS system resource needs.”

1. The San Bernardino County Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) is authorizing the activation of Section IX, ICEMA Reference #8100 - Ambulance Patient Offload Delay (APOD), with the following modifications:
 - If off load delay exceeds 25 minutes, EMS field personnel will transfer care of the patient to ED medical personnel and transition patient to a gurney, cot, bed, chair, wheelchair or waiting room that is appropriate for patient’s condition.
 - Transfer of care will include BLS and ALS patients that are determined to be stable and safe to transfer, based on EMS field personnel evaluation.
 - EMS field personnel are required to give a verbal patient report containing any pertinent information necessary for the ongoing care of the patient. EMS field personnel will complete and post the written ePCR in accordance with existing policy.
2. All the aspects of ICEMA Reference #8100 not specifically addressed in the directive remain in force and effect.
3. ICEMA Reference #8100, Section IX, shall remain in effect until such a time as the MHOAC, ICEMA Duty Officer and XBO COVID-19 Incident Management Team determine that normal operations can be resumed.