PURPOSE

To evaluate and implement equipment and supplies that reduce pain/suffering and improve health outcomes

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY EVALUATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Equipment and supply evaluations, changes and implementations with significant procedural, policy, educational and/or economic impacts generally will be vetted with stakeholders through:

- Alameda County EMS Quality Council
- OR
- Alameda County EMS Equipment Committee

In special or emergent situations, including but not limited to acute supply or equipment shortages, changes may be implemented with the approval of the EMS Director and EMS Medical Director.

It is preferred that new equipment and / or supplies be evaluated by trial prior to system-wide implementation. Equipment and supply trials must be approved by the EMS Director and EMS Medical Director.

Modifications of existing or implementation of new equipment and / or supplies must be approved by the EMS Director and EMS Medical Director.

EMS QUALITY COUNCIL / EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Improve system-wide equipment and supply processes
- Solicit equipment and supply quality improvement proposals from various stakeholders, including field providers
- Serve as a Technical Advisory Group to the EMS Medical Director
- Use the Equipment and Supply Checklist as a guideline for equipment/supply evaluation, changes and implementation
- Contribute to the development of equipment and supply training and education
- Contribute to the development of a consistent approach to gathering and analyzing data regarding equipment and / or supply use and corresponding patient outcome results
- Monitor and evaluate system data reports to identify opportunities for improvement and educational needs
EQUIPMENT EVALUATION CHECKLIST GUIDELINES

Patient Perspective

☐ Safety
☐ Equipment effect on patient outcome
☐ Equipment effect on patient pain/suffering
☐ Patient data and research
☐ Patient surveys/feedback
☐ Economics (Benefit/Cost)

Provider Perspective

☐ Safety
☐ Trial Results
☐ Ease of Provider Use (Process Improvement = Quality Improvement)
☐ Teamwork with other providers
☐ Education, Training and Skills competency requirements
☐ Equipment acquisition and associated equipment, maintenance, resupply and consumable costs
☐ Equipment durability/failures
☐ Future equipment upgrade needs
☐ Provider surveys/feedback
☐ Economics (Benefit/Cost)

Data Collection

☐ Patient Outcomes (e.g. mortality/morbidity)
☐ Patient Response (e.g. pain level, VS)
☐ Patient/Provider surveys/feedback
☐ Trial Results
☐ Equipment Use (#, %...,)
☐ Times (i.e. training time, equipment use time, patient’s time to definitive care)
☐ Economics (Benefit/Cost)
☐ Anecdotal Evidence / Other