

ALS FIRST RESPONDER POLICY

I. PURPOSE

To define the role and function of the ALS First Responder within the Marin County EMS system.

II. DEFINITION

- A. The ALS First Responder is a licensed paramedic, accredited in Marin County and working for an ALS provider. This policy is applicable only when the paramedic is not staffing an ALS transport unit and is assigned to a first response vehicle.
- B. First Response vehicle refers to a fire department vehicle dispatched by an official dispatching agency in response to a request for medical assistance.

III. ROLE

To augment the currently operating ALS system by initiating defined ALS skills prior to the arrival of the ALS treating unit for a specific group of patients.

IV. POLICY

- A. The ALS First Responder will carry the ALS equipment as listed in Policy 5010 (ALS First Responder level).
- B. When arriving at the scene of a life-threatening emergency prior to the ALS unit, the ALS First Responder may perform the following skills
 - 1. Advanced airway management
 - 2. Cardiac defibrillation/cardioversion
 - 3. Establish IV access and administer fluids
 - 4. Administration of epinephrine
- C. Other than as specified above, the ALS First Responder will comply with all Marin County ALS Treatment Guidelines and all pertinent EMS policies and procedures
 - 1. If ALS skills are initiated prior to arrival of the ALS unit, the name of the ALS First Responder will appear on the PCR as such.

- D. When ALS skills are initiated prior to the arrival of the ALS unit, ALS First Responder should accompany the patient to the hospital
 - 1. If unable to accompany the patient, a separate, completed PCR (if not transported with the patient) should be FAXed to the hospital as soon as possible, but no later than the end of that shift and a verbal report called to the receiving hospital.