

## Monterey County Emergency Medical Services Agency

# TRIAGE TAG FAMILIARIZATION DAYS ARE BACK

As part of the Monterey County EMS Agency dedication to emergency preparedness, the EMS Agency is implementing Triage Tag Familiarization Days

Triage Tag Familiarization Days will be conducted on the below listed days for the full 24 hours starting at 0800 until 0800 they next day.

During the 24 hour exercise, EMS personnel will assign a triage category to every patient contact. Paramedics are to initiate and complete a triage tag for every patient (ALS and BLS). The triage tag will be scanned into the ePCR.

On the day of the exercise, receiving hospitals are to collect triage tags and verify that patients met the criteria utilized and annotate whether it was correct or not on the triage tag. All triage tags will be collected and forwarded to Tammera Badano at AMR.

It is the goal for the EMS Agency that this exercise will improve basic skill of triage performance within the EMS system and assist EMS personnel to maintain high skill levels.

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June 8, 2014 June 11 2014 June 27, 2014 September 8, 2014 September 18, 2014 September 27, 2014

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December 7, 2014 December 17, 2014 December 20, 2014

#### **Key points:**

- Time is 0800-0800 each assigned day.
- The triage tag is to be placed on all patients except those who are dead, have CPR being performed on them, prisoners from SVSP or CTF, and patients under a 5150 hold. A triage tag will be used for these patients. The tag will not be placed on these patients.
- Use the triage tag as if the patient were part of an actual MCI. This means that the patient severity selected (Immediate, Delayed, Minor, Deceased) should reflect the actual patient severity. First responders may categorize a patient as minor and the ambulance crew may increase the severity based on further patient evaluation. This would occur in the treatment area of an actual MCI so it should occur during the Familiarization Day.
- Ambulance personnel should tear off the patient destination strip from the top of the tag and keep it with the Transportation Group Supervisor Log sheet.
- The personal Property Receipt should be removed and placed with any patient belongings such as clothes or medications.
- The contaminated strip on the side of the tag should be removed and discarded unless the patient is contaminated.
- The wristband should be removed from the tag and placed on the patient.
- Please take a few minutes and record pertinent patient information on the triage tag prior to transport to, or arrival at, the ED. If at all possible, write the patient's name on the destination strip at the top of the tag prior to transport. Please attempt to mark areas of injury on the body diagram or write the chief complaint/primary problem just below the body diagram.
- \*\*\*New\*\*\* Collect the triage tags for all patients who are not transported and either give them
  to an AMR crew for delivery to Tammera Badano. If unable to give the tag to an AMR crew for
  delivery, please send to Tammera Badano before the end of the week. Tammera will be
  collecting them.
- ED staff are to log the triaged patient according to the hospitals practice to ensure the ability to track the patient from arrival to final destination.
- \*\*\*New\*\*\* The base hospital or receiving hospital ED coordinators are to ensure that the triage tags are collected along with copy of log where tag was recorded and sent to Tammera Badano at AMR before the end of the week. Tammera will be collecting them. \*\*\* Actual MCI\*\*\* the triage tag would stay at the hospital and become part of the patient medical records.
- Ambulance crews are to record each patient transported on the Transportation Group Supervisor Log sheet. Submit this sheet, along with the patient destination strips to Tammera Badano.
- \*\*\*Actual MCI\*\*\* Should there be an actual MCI during the time we are running the Triage Tag Familiarization day; please follow the guidance listed above except an actual Transportation Group Supervisor Log should be used. The designated Transportation Group Supervisor for the incident will be responsible for submission of the Log and patient destination portion of the triage tag.

### <u>Dates:</u>

June 8, 2014	September 8, 2014	December 7, 2014
June 11 2014	September 18, 2014	December 17, 2014
June 27, 2014	September 27, 2014	December 20, 2014