

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

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May 18, 2015

Kristin Weivoda, EMS Administrator
Yolo County Department of Health Services
Emergency Medical Services Agency
Emergency Preparedness
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Dear Ms. Weivoda:

This letter is in response to your 2014 Yolo County EMS Plan submission to the EMS Authority on August 1, 2014.

I. Introduction and Summary:

The EMS Authority has concluded its review of Yolo County's 2014 EMS Plan and is approving the plan as submitted.

II. History and Background:

Since the creation of the Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency in 2013, we have received EMS Plan documentation in 2013 and 2014.

The California Health and Safety (H&S) Code § 1797.254 states:

*"Local EMS agencies shall **annually** (emphasis added) submit an emergency medical services plan for the EMS area to the authority, according to EMS Systems, Standards, and Guidelines established by the authority".*

The EMS Authority is responsible for the review of EMS Plans and for making a determination on the approval or disapproval of the plan, based on compliance with statute and the standards and guidelines established by the EMS Authority consistent with H&S Code § 1797.105(b).

III. Analysis of EMS System Components:

Following are comments related to Yolo County's 2014 EMS Plan Update. Areas that indicate the plan submitted is concordant and consistent with applicable guidelines or regulations and H&S Code § 1797.254 and the EMS system components identified in H&S Code § 1797.103 are indicated below:

- | | Approved | Not Approved | |
|----|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| A. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>System Organization and Management</u> |
| B. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Staffing/Training</u> |

1. System Assessment Forms

The following standards do not meet the established minimum standards. In the next plan submission, please show that the standards have been met or that progress has been made in meeting these standards.

- Standard 1.26. Does not clearly state that all dispatchers are trained in accordance with EMSA's EMD Guidelines. Needs/Objectives do not appear to include plan to address future compliance with Recommended Guidelines.

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| C. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Communications</u> |
| D. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Response/Transportation</u> |

1. Ambulance Zones

- Please see the attachment on the EMS Authority's determination of the exclusivity of Yolo County's ambulance zones.

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| E. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Facilities/Critical Care</u> |
| F. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Data Collection/System Evaluation</u> |

1. System Assessment Forms

- Standard 6.10. 'Current Status' does not indicate that YEMSA has '*a mechanism to identify patients whose care fell outside of the established criteria*' as stated in the 'Minimum Standards'.

G. Public Information and Education

1. System Assessment Forms

- Standard 7.01 - 'Current Status' does not indicate that YEMSA's provision of information to the public addresses several topics identified in 'Minimum Standards' including:
 - Patient and consumer rights as they relate to the EMS System
 - Health and safety habits as they relate to the prevention and reduction of health risks in target areas, and
 - Appropriate utilization of emergency departments

H. Disaster Medical Response

1. System Assessment Forms

- Standard 8.02 – Does not specifically state that medical response plans and procedures are applicable to incidents caused by toxic substances as outlined in 'Minimum Standards'.
- Standard 8.12 – 'Current Status' does not identify the process in place to allow for communication with established Casualty Collection Points (CCP)

Other Miscellaneous

1. Standard Assessment Forms

- Standards 1.17, 4.05, 4.08, 4.10, 4.11, 5.07, 6.05, 8.07, 8.11 - Do not identify efforts to coordinate resources and/or services with other EMS agencies.

In future submissions please indicate what agencies, if any, are coordinated with in meeting the standard.

IV. Conclusion:

Based on the information identified, Yolo County may implement areas of the 2014 EMS Plan Update that have been approved. Pursuant to H&S Code § 1797.105(b):

“After the applicable guidelines or regulations are established by the Authority, a local EMS agency may implement a local plan...unless the Authority determines that the plan does not effectively meet the needs of the persons served and is not consistent with the coordinating activities in the geographical area served, or that the plan is not concordant and consistent with applicable guidelines or regulations, or both the guidelines and regulations established by the Authority.”

V. Next Steps:

Yolo County’s annual EMS Plan Update will be due on May 30, 2015. Please note, during the submission of an annual Plan Update, individual System Assessment Forms are only required to be submitted when changes are made to the system that are different from the last approved five-year EMS Plan. In addition, each County must submit an annual status update of QI and Trauma plans to the EMS Authority.

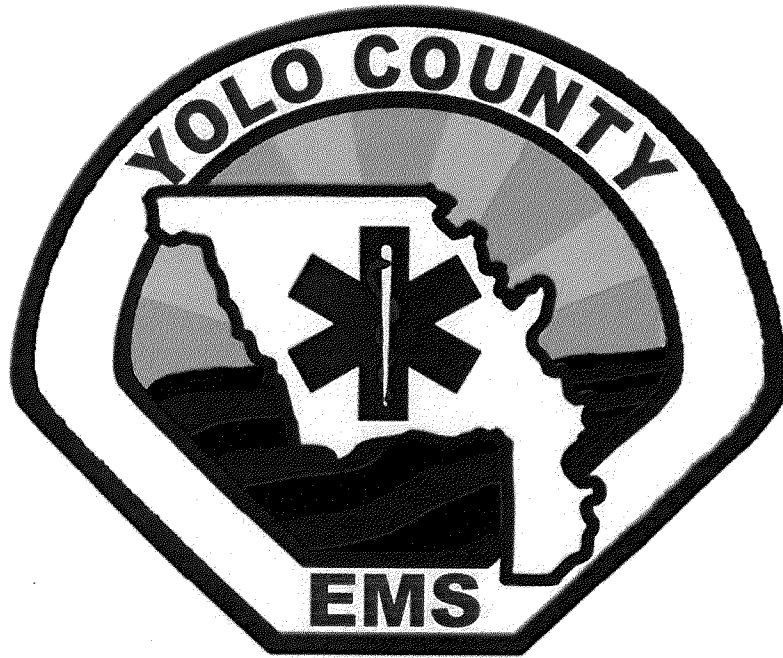
If you have any questions regarding the plan review, please contact Jeff Schultz, EMS Plans Coordinator, at (916) 431-3688.

Sincerely,

Howard Backer, MD, MPH, FACEP
Director

Attachment

YOLO COUNTY EMS AGENCY



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE SYSTEM PLAN 2014

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Yolo County Emergency Medical Service Agency (YEMSA) exclusively serves Yolo County. The agency has recently changed to an independent local emergency medical services agency (LEMSA) from Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS Agency on July 1st, 2013. This plan represents the first update of the Yolo County Emergency Medical Services plan as an independent LEMSA. The agency's primary responsibility is to plan, implement and evaluate an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system which meets or exceeds the minimum standards developed by the California EMS Authority (EMSA).

State law requires EMS agencies to develop plans for the delivery of emergency medical services to the victims of sudden illness or injury within the geographic area served by the EMS agency. These plans must be consistent with the state standards and address the following components:

- System organization and management
- Staffing and training
- Communications
- Response and transportation
- Facilities and critical care
- Data collection and evaluation
- Public information and education (PIE)
- Disaster medical response

Major changes that have taken place include:

- Contractual EMS Agreement with Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS Agency JPA Board was terminated as of July 1, 2013.
- An ambulance ordinance has been adopted by Yolo County to insure high quality standards and compliance with federal, state, and local regulations, statues, ordinances, policies and procedures.
- A competitive ambulance franchise process for Emergency 9-1-1, Advanced Life Support (ALS) and Critical Care Transport (CCT) was held. American Medical Response (AMR) was the successful bidder, and the AMR contract began March 2014.
- New clinical policies/treatment guidelines and procedures were introduced on July 1st, 2013.

The "System Needs and Plan Objectives" section is the centerpiece of the EMS System Plan. This

section describes the current status, needs, objectives and timeline of each component of the EMS system. The needs and the objectives listed in the EMS System Plan were identified and developed by comparing our current EMS system with the California EMS Authority's EMS System Standards and Guidelines and commensurate evaluation and feedback from the EMS Authority. Some of the major objectives of the YEMSA EMS System Plan include:

- Continued development of the Yolo County LEMSA
- Establishing and maintaining ALS service capability throughout the County
- Continued development and refinement of the local County based Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program and process
- Revising and updating Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic Field Treatment guidelines
- Developing an EMS quality improvement (QI) process
- Continue refinement of triaging medical emergencies and dispatching of appropriate resources, both ground and air
- Evaluating the county's EMS communications system
- Identifying the optimal roles and responsibilities of the EMS system partners
- Identifying opportunities for improvement through collaboration with neighboring counties
- Evaluating the roles of base and receiving hospitals in the county.
- Continue developing a regional trauma care system that includes non-historical partnerships to newly designated trauma care relationships
- Continued development and refinement of pre-hospital triage and transfer protocols.
- Review and updating of the local Multiple Casualty Incident (MCI) plan and working with neighboring counties to develop a regional approach
- Increased participation and involvement with Medical Surge Preparedness planning and operational implementation
- Updating of medical air transport policies and procedures

The objectives listed in the EMS System Plan will be used to guide the LEMSA in monitoring and improving the EMS system over the next year.

ASSESSMENT OF SYSTEM

SUMMARY OF SYSTEM STATUS

This section provides a summary of how the Yolo County EMS system meets the State of California’s EMS Systems Standards and Guidelines. An “X” placed in the first column indicated the current system does not meet the State’s minimum standards. An “X” placed in the second or third column indicates that the system meets either the minimum standard or recommended guidelines. An “X” is placed in one (1) of the last two (2) columns to indicate the time frame the agency has established for either meeting the standard or revising the current status. A complete narrative description of each standard along with the objective for establishing compliance is included in the System Needs and Plan Objectives Section of this plan.

SYSTEM ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

TABLE 1: MINIMUM STANDARDS/RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES

A. SYSTEM ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

		Does Not Currently Meet Standard	Meets Minimum Standard	Meets Recommended Guidelines	Short-Range Plan	Long-Range Plan
Agency Administration:						
1.01	LEMSA Structure		X			
1.02	LEMSA Mission		X			
1.03	Public Input		X			
1.04	Medical Director		X			
Planning Activities:						
1.05	System Plan		X			
1.06	Annual Plan Update		X			
1.07	Trauma Planning*		X			
1.08	ALS Planning*		X			
1.09	Inventory of Resources		X			
1.10	Special Populations		X			

A. System Organization and Management (continued)