

TO:	CAL-MAT Members
FROM:	Craig Johnson DMS Division Chief
DATE:	August 3, 2020



Revision/Version: Revised 8/3/2020	Replaces: New
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SUBJECT: California Medical Assistance Team (CAL-MAT) Medication Control Policy

PURPOSE: Establish parameters of control of scheduled and non-scheduled medications.

Summary and New information

- Describes control and chain of custody of medications distributed to CAL-MAT response teams in the field.

Background:

Serving on CAL-MAT does not relieve medical professionals of the obligation to follow the California Board of Pharmacy and Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) rules and policies. This Medication Control Policy sets forth the expectations for CAL-MAT members that handle and dispense medications on deployment.

Policy/Procedure

1. EMSA maintains a State Board of Pharmacy license as a “Pharmaceutical Wholesaler” and as a DEA “Distributor” to supply pharmaceuticals to CAL-MAT teams treating patients during major events.
2. The EMSA pharmacy is maintained by a partnership with the California Department of Public Health, which supplies a pharmacist-in-charge. EMSA personnel that work in the pharmacy are licensed Pharmacy Designated Representatives.
3. Medical control of pharmaceuticals deployed to support CAL-MAT teams in the field is the responsibility of the EMSA CAL-MAT Medical Director and the Chief Medical Officer at the deployment site.
4. The pharmacist on site is authorized to accept, maintain pharmaceutical cache, and re-order medications as needed during the deployment.
5. When an EMSA pharmacy cache is deployed to the field, the pharmacist on site will sign for the pharmaceutical cache and controlled medications.
6. The standard EMSA pharmaceutical cache will be deployed with the formulary medications and scheduled III – V medications.
7. Scheduled II medications require a DEA form 222 before they are deployed.
8. All medications dispensed in the field require a written order and will be tracked by the pharmacy personnel in the field.

California Medical Assistance Team Medication Control Policy

9. When re-ordering medications in the field, requests should be directed to the EMSA pharmacy Designated Representative at emsapharmacy@emsa.ca.gov. There is a 36-72 hour turn around for requested medications to be delivered to the field site.
10. Field pharmacy sites will be a secured room or area at the deployment site.
11. Clinical personnel will work with the pharmacist on site to ensure proper control and chain of custody of all pharmaceuticals dispensed to patients.
12. Medical personnel may not take a clinical assignment outside of the scope of practice allowed by your license or certification.
13. Professional license standards apply, but specific waivers and emergency orders may allow modified scope of practice or regulatory exemptions.
14. It is the responsibility of all CAL-MAT members to ensure all safeguards are met to ensure pharmaceuticals are secured.
15. Serving on CAL-MAT does not relieve medical professionals of the obligation to follow the California Board of Pharmacy and Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) rules and policies.