DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

(PARAMEDIC/EMT-I)
REFERENCE NO. 1104

SUBJECT: **DISASTER PHARMACEUTICAL CACHES CARRIED BY AUTHORIZED ALS PROVIDERS**

PURPOSE: To ensure accessibility to and accountability for disaster pharmaceutical caches carried by authorized Advanced Life Support (ALS) providers.

AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Chapter 5, Section 1798
Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Section 72369

PRINCIPLE:

To ensure terrorism preparedness in Los Angeles County, the Emergency Medical Services Authority approved an expanded scope of practice for paramedics to stock and use certain disaster pharmaceuticals.

POLICY:

I. Disaster Pharmaceutical Cache (DPC) for Patient Use:

A. Quantity

Each DPC will contain the following pharmaceuticals:

DuoDotes or their equivalent: a minimum of 30 auto injectors for treatment of patients
Atropen 1.0 mg: a minimum of 12 for treatment of patients
Pediatric Atropen 0.5 mg: a minimum of 12 for treatment of patients

B. Procurement

1. Initial stocking of all two paramedic vehicles with a DPC was completed in 2002 by the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency.

2. DPC re-supply and initial stocking of additional two-paramedic units will be through the provider agency purchasing entity and its medical director.

C. Disaster Pharmaceutical Cache Security

1. Paramedics assigned to an ALS unit shall be responsible for maintaining the correct DPC inventory for their assigned unit at all times.

2. DuoDotes (or their equivalent) and Atropens for patient use will be stored in the DPC case.

APPROVED: Director, EMS Agency

Medical Director, EMS Agency

CROSS REFERENCES:

Prehospital Care Manual:

Ref. No. 519, **Management of Multiple Casualty Incidents**
Ref. No. 701, **Supply and Resupply of Designated EMS Provider Units/Vehicles**
Ref. No. 807, **Medical Control During Hazardous Material Exposure**
Ref. No. 1106, **Mobilization of Local Pharmaceutical Caches (LPCs)**
Ref. No. 1108, **CHEMPACK Deployment for Nerve Agent Release**
Ref. No. 1225, **Nerve Agent Exposure**