### PRINCIPLES:

1. Contact assigned base whenever possible.
2. Clinical judgment should be exercised in situations not described in this policy.
3. Children under three years of age require base hospital contact and/or transport in accordance with this policy.
4. Thorough documentation is essential, especially if contact/transport is not performed in accordance with this policy (*EXCEPTION, See SECTION III*).
5. Circumstances may dictate immediate transport with base contact en route.
6. EMTs shall not cancel a paramedic response if a patient meets any criteria in Section I; an ALS Unit shall be requested if one has not been dispatched.
7. In life-threatening situations, consider BLS transport if ALS arrival is longer than transport time.
8. Contact shall be made with the area’s trauma center, when it is also a base hospital, on all injured patients meeting Trauma Criteria and/or Guidelines.

### SECTION I – BASE CONTACT REQUIRED

- Anaphylaxis
- Signs or symptoms of shock
- Cardiopulmonary arrest (excluding those meeting Ref. No. 814, 815)
- Chest pain or discomfort
- Shortness of breath and/or tachypnea
- PMC/PTC Criteria/Guidelines (Ref. No. 510)
- 5 or more patients requiring transport (contacting MAC constitutes base contact)
- Altered level of consciousness as defined in the Medical Control Guidelines
- Suspected ingestion of poisonous substance
- Exposure to hazardous materials with a medical complaint
- Abdominal pain pregnancy or suspected pregnancy ≥ 20 weeks gestation
- Hypertension (BP ≥140/90 mmHg) in pregnant patient ≥ 20 weeks gestation or post-partum patient (up to 6 weeks)
- Childbirth or signs of labor
- Suspected femur fracture
- Facial, neck, electrical, or extensive burns: 20% or > in adults 15% or > in children 10% or > in infants
- Trauma Criteria/Guidelines (Ref. No. 506)
- Traumatic Crush Syndrome
- Syncope, loss of consciousness, acute neurological symptoms (suspected signs/symptoms of stroke)
- Refusal of transport (AMA), if meeting any criteria in Section I

### SECTION II – TRANSPORT REQUIRED

- Abdominal pain
- Suspected isolated fracture of the hip
- Abnormal vaginal bleeding
- Suspected allergic reaction
- Asymptomatic exposure to hazardous material (If known to have delayed symptoms)
- GI bleeding
- Near drowning
- Patients who are gravely disabled or a danger to themselves or others

### SECTION III – PEDIATRIC PATIENTS

- Infants < 12 months of age shall be transported, regardless of chief complaint and/or mechanism of injury

**EXCEPTION:** Infants < 12 months of age who meet Ref. No. 814, Determination/Pronouncement of Death in the Field, Section I.

- Children 13-36 months of age require base hospital contact and/or transport except isolated minor extremity injury

**EXCEPTION:** Ref. No. 808, Principle 4 does not apply to patients < 36 months of age.

### SECTION IV – REQUIRED BASE CONTACT CRITERIA FOR SFTPs

- If indicated in the SFTPs
- For any criteria listed in Section I that is not addressed by SFTPs
- Whenever consultation with the base hospital is indicated

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Los Angeles County EMS Agency
Ref. No. 808.1 - BASE HOSPITAL CONTACT AND TRANSPORT CRITERIA
Field Reference

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