May 15, 2012

TO: Each Prehospital Care Policy Manual Holder

FROM: Cathy Chidester
   Director

SUBJECT: CHANGE NOTICE #26, PREHOSPITAL CARE MANUAL

The EMS Agency has moved to an electronic format for the annual Change Notice for the Prehospital Care Manual. The electronic version of Change Notice #26 is available on our website at https://ems.dhs.lacounty.gov. Attachment I, the Policy Status Grid, the Health and Safety Code, Title 22, and a Record of Changes are also online. Attachment I is a guide to adding, deleting or replacing the policies. It briefly identifies the rationale for any revisions and should be retained with each manual as a reference. The Record of Changes indicates the number of the most current Change Notice that is included in the manual. If you maintain the paper-based Prehospital Care Manual, please ensure that all of the manuals in your organization are updated with these materials.

The website is the best resource for the most current policies since the policies change frequently to keep pace with advances in evidence-based medicine, drug therapy, unit inventories, and disaster preparedness.

Each EMS incident is unique and existing policies may not cover every situation; however, the basic principles for performance can serve as guidelines in related incidents. As always, good documentation is the foundation for data collection and assessing system effectiveness. The importance of good documentation cannot be overemphasized.

If you have any questions regarding revisions to the Prehospital Care Manual, please contact Christine Bender, Chief, Prehospital Care Operations at (562) 347-1678.

CC:RT:cb