



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES



2013
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY
APPROVED STROKE CENTER STANDARDS

PURPOSE:

Establish the minimum standards for 9-1-1 Receiving Hospitals who wish to accept acute stroke patients from approved ALS and BLS providers within the Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) System.

AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Sections 1255, 1255.5, 1256, 1797.220, 1797.222, 1798, 1798.50, 1798.163, 1799.202 et seq.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Sections 10727, 10728, 42400 et seq., 100147, 100172, 100175

DEFINITIONS:

Approved Stroke Center (ASC): A 9-1-1 receiving hospital that has been approved by the Los Angeles Stroke (LA) County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency based on meeting the requirements as a Primary or Comprehensive Stroke Center by an accreditation body accepted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

POLICY:

- A. Approved Stroke Centers shall be licensed as a general acute care hospital with a basic emergency department permit as defined by the California State Department of Public Health and meet the standards of a Primary or Comprehensive Stroke Center as defined by an accreditation body deemed acceptable by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
- B. Application Process:
 - 1. A hospital that wishes to become an Approved Stroke Center must submit a letter of interest and complete the LA EMS ASC application no later than 60 days prior to the desired date of designation as an Approved Stroke Center by the EMS Agency.
 - 2. The request is to include documentation demonstrating that the hospital meets the standards of a Primary Stroke Center as defined by the Joint Commission.

3. The request must be signed by the hospital Stroke Program Medical Director and the Chief Executive or Chief Operations Officer.

C. Approval

1. The ASC will be approved after satisfactory review of application documentation and a site survey, when deemed necessary, by the Los Angeles County EMS Agency Medical Director or their designee.
2. The ASC will be re-approved after a satisfactory Los Angeles County EMS Agency review every two years or sooner if deemed necessary. This review may include a site survey by an independent review team.
3. The ASC Medical Director shall submit a written ninety (90) calendar day notice to the EMS Agency prior to the discontinuation of ASC services.

D. Data

1. The ASC will participate in data submission of all patients transported via 9-1-1 and meet the inclusion criteria as stated in the Los Angeles County EMS Agency Stroke Data Definitions.
2. The ASC shall enter all required data elements as defined in the current *Approved Stroke Center Data Dictionary*.
3. The ASC shall submit the required data within forty-five (45) days following the incident via defined media approved by the Los Angeles County EMS Agency.
4. The ASC shall in no way modify the function of the software. Usage for any purpose or for running any other programs or software shall be done only with the express written consent of the EMS medical director.