SUBJECT: **BASIC LIFE SUPPORT AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT** (EMT, PARAMEDIC) REFERENCE NO. 710

PURPOSE: To provide minimum equipment standards for private basic life support (BLS) ambulance providers and to ensure a system wide standardized inventory of supplies and equipment to promote safety, readiness, and the ability to meet the requirements of an "all hazards" disaster response in the event of a declared emergency.

AUTHORITY: California Administrative Code, Title 13, Section 1103
California Highway Patrol (CHP) Handbook 82.4, Chapter 4.5: Recommended Ambulance Equipment
California Vehicle Code Section 2418.5
Health and Safety Code 1797.220 and 1798

DEFINITIONS:

Personal Protective Equipment: For the purpose of this policy, personal protective equipment (PPE) is garments/equipment designed to protect/minimize hazardous exposure to prehospital care responders.

PRINCIPLES:

1. Ambulances shall be maintained in good mechanical repair and sanitary condition.

2. Any equipment carried for use in providing emergency medical care must be maintained in clean condition and good working order. Medical supplies and solutions shall be replaced prior to the expiration date.

3. All reusable medical supplies and equipment should be maintained in clean, ready-to-use condition and be disinfected or sterilized per manufacturer's recommendations.

4. Whenever a patient with a known or suspected communicable disease has been transported, the patient compartment and all interior surfaces, including fixed equipment, should be thoroughly cleansed with soap, water, and disinfectant. Supplies such as pillows, blankets, and linens should be disposable or autoclaved. * (* indicates language specific to the CHP Handbook)

5. All ambulance providers must be integrated into the disaster medical response system in order to participate in state and local disaster response or a declared emergency.

6. Ambulance personnel should not function within an operational area requiring PPE beyond their level of provision and training.

7. In any workplace where N95, or equivalent masks are necessary to protect the health of employees or whenever such masks are required by the employer, the employer shall have a written policy and provide training in the proper use and operation of the device.

APPROVED: Richard Tadeo
Director, EMS Agency

Medical Director, EMS Agency

NOTE: Ambulances dedicated for infant transportation or when staffed and equipped for use in conjunction with newborn intensive care nursery services as specified in Title 22, CAC, Sections 70481 – 70487, need not concurrently carry items of emergency care equipment or supplies as specified herein that would interfere with the specialized care and transportation of an infant in an incubator or isolette.

POLICY:

I. Required Vehicle Safety Equipment:

A. A siren and steady burning red warning lamp that meet requirements established by the CHP Handbook, Section 818.

B. Seat belts or equivalent restraints for every sitting position. A child or infant not secured to a gurney should be secured in an appropriate child/infant restraint device.

C. A fire extinguisher of the dry chemical or the carbon dioxide type, with a minimum 4-B:C rating, maintained as prescribed by the State Fire Marshal in Title 19, CAC, Section 597. The use of vaporizing liquid extinguishers is prohibited.

D. A portable, battery-operated light.

E. A spare wheel with inflated tire of the appropriate load rating.

F. A jack and tools for wheel changes.

G. Maps or electronic mapping device covering the areas in which the ambulance provides service.

H. Patient compartment door latches operable from inside and outside the vehicle on all emergency ambulances manufactured and first registered after January 1, 1980.

II. Personnel PPE Training

Prior to use, all personnel who may be required to utilize PPE shall receive training in accordance with OSHA requirements (Ref. 26 CFR 1910.132 [f]. At minimum, training shall consist of:

A. Identification of when and what type of PPE is necessary; how to properly don, doff, adjust, and wear PPE; the limitations of the PPE; and the proper care, maintenance, useful life, and disposal of the PPE (Ref. 29 CFR 1910.132 [f] [1] [1-5]).

B. Demonstration of the ability to use PPE properly before being allowed to perform work requiring the use of PPE (Ref. 29 CFR 1910.132 [f] [2].

C. Verification that each employee has received and understands the required training through a written certification that contains the course title, date of the training, and the name of the employee trained.

D. Proper fit testing for any respiratory protection in accordance with OSHA requirements (Ref. 29 CFR 1910.134).

III. Minimum Levels of Recommended Emergency Care Equipment and Supplies

MINIMUM INVENTORY	QUANTITIES
Adhesive tape, rolls of 1 in., 2 in. and, 3 in.	2 each
Ankle and wrist restraints. • If soft ties are used, they should be at least three inches wide (before tying) to maintain a two-inch width while in use.	1 set
Automated External Defibrillator (AED) • Razor/Trimmer	1 each
Adult AED Defibrillation Pads	2
Bandages, 4 in. sterile compresses or equivalent	12
Bag-valve device with 0_2 inlet and reservoir • Bag Volume 400-700 mL [1] • Bag Volume 900-1500 mL [1]	1 each
Bag-valve mask • Large • Medium • Small adult/child • Toddler • Infant • Neonate	1 each
Bandages, 2 in. or 3 in. soft, rolled stretch (Kerlix or Kling type)	6
Bandages, 3 in. x 3 in. or 4 in. x 4 in. sterile gauze pads	4
Bandages, universal dressings (trauma dressings), 10 in. x 30 in or larger	2
Bandage scissors	1
Bedpan/fracture pan	1
Blood pressure manometer, cuff and stethoscope: • Thigh • Adult • Child • Infant	1 each
*Cervical Collars, rigid: • Adult • Child • Infant *2 pediatric adjustable meets infant requirement	2 each
Dextrose – glucose paste/gel	15gms
Emesis basin, disposable bags or covered containers	1
Hemostatic dressings–EMS Authority approved dressings only - **optional**	2

MINIMUM INVENTORY	QUANTITIES
Immobilizer, Head: • Disposable or Reusable	2
Linen: • Sheets • Pillows	 4 2
Manometer **(Optional)**	2
Obstetrical supplies, sterile, including (no scalpel): • Gloves • Umbilical cord clamps • Dressings, towels • Scissors • Bulb syringe • Clear plastic bag	1 kit or supplies as indicated
Oropharyngeal airways: • Two (2) adult • Two (2) children • One (1) infant • One (1) newborn	6
Oxygen cannulas • Adult • Child	1each
Oxygen masks, non-rebreather • Adult • Child • Infant	1 each
Oxygen masks, simple **(Optional)** • Adult • Child • Infant	1 each
Oxygen, portable • “D” or “E” FULL cylinder with one (1) oxygen flow control regulator for use between both cylinders	1
Oxygen, vehicle (house) • “M” or “H” cylinder with a minimum of 1000 psi and one (1) oxygen flow control regulator	1
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (Personal Body Substance Isolation Equipment) • mask • gown • eye protection	2 each
Saline, sterile isotonic, in clearly labeled plastic liter (quart) containers	2

MINIMUM INVENTORY	QUANTITIES
Spine boards, rigid, approximately 14 inches in width with one at least 30 inches in lengthand the otherapproximately 72 inches in length with straps for immobilization of suspected spinal or back injuries	2
Splints, short, medium, and long • Cardboard splints (recommended for general use) • Inflatable air splints (recommended to immobilize lower arms and lower legs) **(Optional)**	4 each
Splint, traction	1
Stretchers: • Stretchers with wheels and the following: ○ mattresses should be covered with impervious plastic material or the equivalent ○ have the capability to elevate both the head and foot ○ straps to secure the patient to the stretcher, including shoulders, waist, and legs ○ a means of securing the stretcher in the vehicle ○ adjustable to four different levels	1
• Collapsible stretcher and the following: ○ straps to secure the patient to the stretcher and a means of securing the stretcher in the vehicle	1
• Device to secure a child or infant to the stretcher	1
Suction equipment, portable, capable of at least: • a negative pressure equivalent to 300mm of mercury • 30 liter per minute air flow rate for 30 minutes of operation.	1
Suction equipment, vehicle (house), capable of at least: • a negative pressure equivalent to 300mm of mercury • 30 liter per minute air flow rate for 30 minutes of operation	1
Suction Tubing: • Non-collapsible, plastic, semi-rigid, whistle-tipped, finger controlled type is preferred. * • Flexible catheters for tracheostomy suctioning (8Fr.-12Fr.)	1 each
Thermometer (Oral or axillary)	1
Tongue depressors	6
Tourniquets (commercial, for control of bleeding)	2
Water, sterile, (quarts)	2
Urinal	1
Chemotherapy spill kit **(Optional)**	1

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT (PPE)*	QUANTITIES
Escape hood **(Optional)**	2
Gloves, work (multiple use, leather)	2 pairs
Hearing protection	2 sets
Jacket, EMS, with reflective stripes	2
Rescue helmet	2
Respiratory protection mask (N95) and general purpose mask	2 each
Safety vest meeting ANSI/ISEA 107-2020 standards Type P: Class 3	2

AMBULANCE STRIKE TEAM ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES*	QUANTITIES
Ballistic vest, protective **(Optional – risk dependent**)**	2
Field Operations Guide (FOG)	1
Footwear covers, single use	2 pairs
Duodote (atropine 2.1mg and pralidoxime chloride 600mg) or equivalent (**Optional)**	1/person
MRE (meal ready to eat) (3 meals/day/member for 3 days)	18

*Maintained at deployment location, not required in vehicle unless deployed.
**Mandatory for deployment to areas of civil unrest.
[1] **Device volume, not delivered volume.**

CROSS REFERENCES:

OSHA Regulations:
Ref. No. 29 CFR 1910.132
Ref. No. 29 CFR 1910.134
OSHA Safety & Health Information Bulletin: "CBRN Escape Respirator" provides guidance on use, selection, and training. The minimum PPE is Level D, if applicable.

Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA):
EMSA Guidelines #216

California Highway Patrol:
Ref. 299, Ambulance Inventory

Prehospital Care Manual:
Ref. No. 703, **ALS Unit Inventory**
Ref. No. 703.1 **Private Provider Interfacility Transfer ALS Unit Inventory**
Ref. No. 704, **Assessment Unit Inventory**