

**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY**



Program Document: **Public Safety First Aid Scope of Practice**

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Signature on File

EMS Medical Director

Signature on File

EMS Administrator

Purpose:

- A. To define the scope of practice for Public Safety First Aid (PSFA) agency personnel in the Sacramento County Emergency Medical Services Agency (SCEMSA) region.

Authority:

- A. California Health and Safety Code Division 2.5
- B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

Policy:

- A. Except those whose duties are primarily clerical or administrative, the following regularly employed public safety personnel, paid or volunteer, shall be trained to administer first aid, CPR, and use an AED:
 - 1. Lifeguard;
 - 2. Firefighter;
 - 3. Peace officer.
- B. The public safety personnel identified in Section A, above, shall maintain current Public Safety First Aid (PSFA) certification and be trained and demonstrated competent in the optional skills identified in this policy, below.

Scope of Practice:

- A. The following skills are authorized for PSFA Providers in Sacramento County after completion of an approved PSFA training course and demonstration of competency to the satisfaction of the approved training provider:
 - 1. Evaluate the ill and injured
 - 2. Provide treatment for shock

3. Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
4. Perform automated external defibrillation (AED)
5. Use the following techniques to support airway and breathing:
 - a. Manual airway opening methods, including head-tilt-chin lift and/or jaw thrust;
 - b. Manual methods to remove an airway obstruction in adults, children, and infants;
 - c. Use the recovery position
6. Perform the following during emergency care:
 - a. Spinal immobilization
 - b. Splinting of extremities with simple splints
 - c. Emergency eye irrigation using water or normal saline
 - d. Assist with administration of oral glucose
 - e. Assist patients with administration of physician prescribed epinephrine devices and naloxone
 - f. Assist in emergency childbirth
 - g. Hemorrhage control using direct pressure, pressure bandages, principles of pressure points, and tourniquets.
 - h. Chest seals and dressings
 - i. Simple decontamination techniques and use of decontamination equipment
 - j. Care for amputated body parts
 - k. Provide basic wound care
7. Obtain diagnostic signs including blood pressure, pulse rate, respiration rate, quality of consciousness, capillary refill, and pupil status if training was provided as part of the first aid curriculum.
8. Perform optional skills as outlined below.

Optional Skills:

- A. The SCEMSA Medical Director has the primary responsibility for approving all PSFA programs utilizing optional skills located within Sacramento County.
- B. An entity intending to operate as a PSFA optional skills agency or provide optional skills in Sacramento County shall obtain SCEMSA Medical Director approval.
- C. SCEMSA shall be notified, in writing, within thirty (30) calendar days of any change in the program instructional staff.

- D. Training and administration of optional skills shall result in PSFA provider to be competent in the administration and management of optional skills.
- E. PSFA optional skills providers must be employed by a government public safety agency functioning within Sacramento County, as a part of the EMS System and may only provide optional skills while on duty.
- F. The following optional skills are authorized for use by a PSFA agency when approved by the SCEMSA Medical Director:
 - 1. Administration of auto-injectors containing epinephrine for suspected anaphylaxis.
 - 2. Supplemental oxygen therapy using non-rebreather face mask or nasal cannula, and bag-valve mask ventilation.
 - 3. Administration of auto-injectors containing epinephrine, atropine or pralidoxime chloride for nerve agent exposure for self or peer care.
 - 4. Administration of intranasal (IN) naloxone for suspected narcotic overdoses with respiratory depression.
 - 5. Use of oropharyngeal airways (OPAs) and nasopharyngeal airways (NPAs).

Cross References:

- PD# 2523 – Administration of Naloxone by First Responder
- PD# 4503 – Public Safety/Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Automated External Defibrillation Service Provider Approval
- PD# 4504 – Automated External Defibrillation (AED)
- PD# 4525 – PSFA and Optional Skills Provider Approval – Requirements