NORTH COAST EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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Subject: Scope of Practice/Procedure - BLS

Aspirin

Associated Policies: 6006, 6511

I. Indications

A. Chest pain or other signs and symptoms suggestive of acute myocardial infarction (AMI).

II. Therapeutic Effects

A. Appears to impede clotting by blocking prostaglandin synthesis, which prevents formation of the platelet - aggregating substance thromboxane.

III. Contraindications

- A. Absolute:
 - 1. Known hypersensitivity to aspirin.
- B. Relative:
 - 1. None. Benefits of anti-platelet effect strongly outweigh risks of single dose use.

IV. Adverse Effects

- A. Hypersensitivity, manifested by anaphylaxis or asthma.
- B. Nausea.
- C. Vomiting.
- D. Gastrointestinal distress.
- E. Occult bleeding/minor bleeding.

V. Administration and Dosage

A. 324 mg nonenteric-coated (4 (four) chewable 81 mg tablets or 1(one) 325 mg adult tablet), chewed and swallowed.

VI. Special Information

- A. Does not increase risk of hemorrhagic stroke.
- B. Produces a 23% decrease in AMI mortality, even when used without thrombolytic drugs.

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C. Appears to be safe for use during pregnancy.

Approved:___

Approved as to Form:

Date: 10/2014