

Subject: Scope of Practice – ALS  
 Paramedic Scope of Practice

Purpose	To define the regional paramedic scope of practice. A paramedic shall be affiliated with an approved paramedic service provider in order to perform the scope of practice.
Procedures	<p>A. While at the scene of an emergency, and during transport of the sick and injured, or as a part of their training or continuing education, a paramedic or a paramedic student may, in accordance with North Coast EMS policies and procedures and California State law, do the following:</p> <p>Basic Scope of Practice:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Perform any activity identified in the scope of practice of an EMT or any activity identified in the scope of practice of an Advanced EMT (AEMT) without requiring a separate certification.</li> <li>2. Utilize electrocardiographic devices and monitor electrocardiograms, including 12-Lead electrocardiograms.</li> <li>3. Perform defibrillation, synchronized cardioversion, and external pacing.</li> <li>4. Visualize the airway by using the laryngoscope and remove foreign body(ies) with Magill forceps.</li> <li>5. Perform pulmonary ventilation by using lower airway multi-lumen adjuncts (Combitube), supraglottic airway device (iGEL), stomal intubation, and adult oral endotracheal intubation.</li> <li>6. Utilize mechanical ventilation devices for continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)/bi-level positive airway pressure (PBAP) and positive end expiratory pressure (PEEP) in the spontaneously breathing patient.</li> <li>7. Institute intravenous (IV) catheters, saline locks, needles, or cannulae (IV lines), in peripheral veins and monitor and administer medications through pre-existing vascular access.</li> <li>8. Institute intraosseous (IO) needles or catheters.</li> <li>9. Administer IV or IO glucose solutions or isotonic balanced salt solutions including Ringer’s lactate solution.</li> <li>10. Obtain venous blood samples.</li> <li>11. Use laboratory devices, including point of care testing, for pre-hospital screening to measure lab values including, but not limited to glucose, capnometry, capnography, and carbon monoxide.</li> <li>12. Utilize Valsalva maneuver.</li> <li>13. Perform percutaneous needle cricothyroidotomy.</li> <li>14. Perform needle thoracostomy.</li> <li>15. Perform nasogastric and orogastric tube insertion and suction.</li> <li>16. Monitor thoracostomy tubes.</li> </ol>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17. Monitor and adjust IV solutions containing potassium, equal to or less than 40 mEq/L.</li> <li>18. Administer approved medications by the following routes: IV, IO, intramuscular, subcutaneous, inhalation, transcutaneous, rectal, sublingual, endotracheal, intranasal, oral or topical.</li> </ol>
<p><b>ALS Medications</b></p>	<p>Administer, using prepackaged products when available, the following medications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 10%, 25% and 50% Dextrose</li> <li>2. Acetaminophen IV</li> <li>3. Acetaminophen Oral</li> <li>4. Activated Charcoal</li> <li>5. Adenosine</li> <li>6. Aerosolized or nebulized beta-2 specific bronchodilators</li> <li>7. Amiodarone</li> <li>8. Aspirin</li> <li>9. Atropine sulfate</li> <li>10. Calcium Chloride</li> <li>11. Dextrose 10%/250cc IV bag</li> <li>12. Dextrose 25% and 50%</li> <li>13. Diazepam</li> <li>14. Diphenhydramine hydrochloride</li> <li>15. Dopamine hydrochloride</li> <li>16. Epinephrine</li> <li>17. Fentanyl</li> <li>18. Glucagon</li> <li>19. Ipratropium bromide</li> <li>20. Ketamine</li> <li>21. Ketorolac</li> <li>22. Lidocaine hydrochloride</li> <li>23. Lorazepam</li> <li>24. Magnesium sulfate</li> <li>25. Midazolam</li> <li>26. Morphine sulfate</li> <li>27. Naloxone hydrochloride</li> <li>28. Nitroglycerine Spray</li> <li>29. Ondansetron</li> <li>30. Pralidoxime Chloride</li> <li>31. Sodium bicarbonate</li> </ol>

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	32. Tranexamic acid
Local Optional Scope Practice	<p>A. The Local Optional Scope of Practice is defined as any medication and/or procedure approved for use by North Coast EMS beyond the Basic Scope of Practice as listed in the California Code of Regulations, Title 22.</p> <p>B. All Local Optional Scope of Practice can only be used by provider agencies with North Coast EMS approval and agency training.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Furosemide</li> <li>2. Oxytocin</li> <li>3. Monitor IV Heparin drip during interfacility transfers</li> <li>4. Monitor IV Nitroglycerin drip during interfacility transfers</li> <li>5. Monitor IV administration of blood and blood products during interfacility transfers</li> <li>6. Monitor the Continuation of Antibiotics during interfacility transfers</li> <li>7. Monitor IV Fentanyl drip during interfacility transfers</li> </ol>
Special Information	<p>Paramedic and EMT scope of practice during transfers of patients between facilities or when transporting a patient from home to hospital/hospital to home.</p> <p>A. Paramedics may not transport patients who are being treated with procedures, medications and/or IV solutions which are outside of the paramedic scope of practice as defined by Title 22 and the North Coast Emergency Medical Services; nor may any such transfer/transport orders, either written or verbal, be initiated to exceed the paramedic’s scope of practice with the below exceptions.</p> <p>B. If the patient is receiving a medication which is outside the paramedic or EMT’s scope of practice, but that medication is being delivered either by dermal patch, implant or patient-controlled pump, the paramedic or EMT can accept the patient for transfer or transport without the removal or discontinuance of the medication. If the dermal patch, implant, or patient-controlled pump malfunctions is suspected in a change in the patient’s condition (i.e., hypotension or decrease in mentation) the dermal patch can be removed or the device placed on stand-by unless there is known contraindication in doing so.</p>

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