

POLICY: 915.10
TITLE: Alternative Receiving Facility Kirkwood

EFFECTIVE: 8/15/2025
REVIEW: 8/2027
SUPERCEDES:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES ON FILE IN EMS OFFICE

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ALTERNATIVE RECEIVING FACILITY KIRKWOOD

- I. AUTHORITY
California Health and Safety Code 1798.101
- II. DEFINITIONS
 - A. **Agency** means Mountain Counties Emergency Medical Services Agency (MCEMSA).
 - B. **Alternative Base Station/Hospital** means a facility or service operated and directly supervised by, or directly supervised by, a physician who is trained and qualified to issue advice and instructions to prehospital emergency medical care personnel, which has been approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency to provide medical direction to advanced life support or limited advanced life support personnel responding to a medical emergency as part of the local EMS system, when no qualified basic or comprehensive hospital is available to provide that medical direction.
 - C. **Alternate Receiving Facility** means a facility approved by the State Emergency Medical Services Authority, with the Medical Director of Mountain Counties EMS Agency, that authorizes patients to be transported to a facility which does not meet the requirement of a Receiving Facility in remote areas when the transport of a patient to a designated Receiving Facility, Base Hospital or Alternative Base Hospital is precluded due to geographic or other extenuating circumstances.
 - D. **Boundary** means the area in the Vail Resort Properties to include the Nordic Center.
 - E. **Clinic** refers to the Barton Medical Clinic at Kirkwood Ski Area.
 - F. **Prehospital Care Provider** means the ambulance service provider, fire service agency or any other emergency service provider that is authorized to provide prehospital care within the Agency. Any employee by the ski area is expected to follow their policies, procedures, and protocols.
- III. PURPOSE
To establish the minimum requirements for an Alternative Receiving Facility, which shall provide medical control of prehospital emergency medical care provided for the area defined by the local EMS agency in accordance with policies and procedures.
- IV. POLICY
 - A. The Agency shall designate Alternative Receiving Facilities to receive patients and provider medical care for injuries listed in MCEMS Policy # 915.10.

- B. For Alternative Receiving Facilities, the Agency shall submit to the California State Emergency Medical Services Agency as part of its EMS plan, protocol approved by the Agency Medical Director to ensure that the use of that facility is in the best interest of patient care.
 - C. Any change in the status of an approved Alternative Receiving Facility to care for patients requiring emergency medical services, with respect to protocols and the facility's ability to care for patients shall be reported by the facility to MCEMSA immediately by phone to the Agency Duty Officer and by email to dutyofficer@mvemsa.com.
 - D. The protocols which govern the use of the facility shall consider, but not be limited to the following:
 - 1. The medical staff and availability of the staff at various times to care for patients requiring emergency medical services.
 - 2. The availability of more comprehensive emergency medical services and the distance and/or travel time necessary to make the alternative emergency medical services available.
 - 3. The time of day and any limitations which may apply for the facility to assess and treat patients, requiring emergency medical services.
 - E. Patients at the Kirkwood Inn and/or Nordic Center and closer to the Kirkwood Ski Clinic shall be transported to the Clinic with the following conditions in the absence of signs of acute neurologic injury or illness such as head injury, new paralysis, and/or stroke:
 - 1. Closed extremity injury
 - 2. Lacerations
 - 3. Time sensitive injury or illness that can benefit from services at the Clinic including but not limited to:
 - 4. Cardiac arrest that does not meet TOR criteria per Cardiac Arrest policy #554.11 and Traumatic Arrest policy #554.83
 - 5. Seizure
 - 6. Chest pain suspicious for cardiac origin
 - 7. Shortness of breath
 - 8. Anaphylaxis
 - F. The following conditions **shall wait for or rendezvous with** ALS on scene unless waiting at the Clinic offers important benefits from inclement weather that supersede the ultimate longer transport to the hospital
 - 1. Stroke
 - 2. Head trauma with altered mental status
 - 3. Acute paralysis
 - 4. Open fractures or open dislocations
 - G. Patients may be transported to the Alternative Receiving Facility when the use of the facility is in the best interest of patient care.
- V. DATA COLLECTION
- A. Maintain a written Alternative Receiving Facility QI (Quality Improvement) policy or plan. This shall be submitted to MCEMSA on a yearly basis with an update.
 - B. Participate in the MCEMSA QI process.
 - C. Provide in a timely manner, data, and statistical reports as may reasonably be required by the Agency and as allowed under HIPAA.
 - D. Maintain and oversee Alternative Receiving Facility physician and staff authorization

and CE tracking system.

VI. QUALITY ASSURANCE/IMPROVEMENT PROCESS

- A. The Alternative Receiving Facility shall be monitored and evaluated by the Agency's Continuous Quality Improvement program.
- B. The Agency shall notify the State EMS Authority of any reported complaints or unusual occurrences related to the Alternative Receiving Facility within 72 hours, which shall include all supporting documentation.