



VERDUGO NUMBERED MEMORANDUM

#2013 - 04

November 13, 2013

SICK (ALS) / SICK-2 (BLS) – Tiered Dispatch Response Levels

Background:

The CAD incident type code SICK has traditionally been used for general malaise when a medical incident is unable to be categorized to any other more specific medical type code.

The type code SICK-2 was developed for epidemiological tracking purposes when the H1-N1 virus made its appearance several years ago.

Epidemiological tracking can now be best served through field-based reporting, therefore, the SICK and SICK-2 type codes can be used for a better ALS/BLS tiered dispatch response, for those agencies having this type of medical service delivery system.

Those agencies that do not have a tiered dispatch delivery model will not have their response model affected.

Policy:

- For all calls meeting the following symptoms with generalized sickness, dispatch staff shall use the SICK type code which will cause an ALS response:
 - Altered Level of Consciousness (consider using ALOC code if chief complaint)
 - Extreme dehydration (fluids needed)
- For all calls not meeting the above criterion for general sickness, dispatch staff shall use the SICK-2 type code, as a BLS response.

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