



INLAND COUNTIES EMERGENCY MEDICAL AGENCY POLICY AND PROTOCOL MANUAL

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ORGAN DONOR INFORMATION

I. PURPOSE

To comply with State legislation requiring emergency medical services (EMS) field personnel to search for organ donor information on adult patients for whom death appears imminent.

II. POLICY

Existing law provides that any individual who is at least 18 years of age may make an anatomical gift and sets forth procedures for making that anatomical gift, including the presence of a pink dot on their driver's license indicating enrollment in the California Organ and Tissue Donor Registry.

- When EMS field personnel encounter an unconscious adult patient for whom it appears death is imminent, a reasonable search of the patient's belonging should be made to determine if the individual carries information indicating status as an organ donor. This search shall not interfere with patient care or transport. Any inventory of victim's personal effects should be on the patient care record and signed by the person who receives the patient.
- All EMS field personnel shall notify the receiving hospital if organ donor information is discovered.
- Any organ donor document discovered should be transported to the receiving hospital with the patient unless the investigating law enforcement officer requests the document. In the event that no transport is made, any document should remain with the patient.
- EMS field personnel should briefly note the results of the search, notification of hospital and witness name(s) on the patient care report.
- No search is to be made by EMS field personnel after the patient has expired.