

System Operations**Date: 04/22/2024****Hospital Diversion (Bypass)****Policy #4050**

- I. Purpose:** To ensure emergency patients are transported to the most accessible medical facility, which is equipped and prepared to administer emergency care to the needs of the patient safely.
- II. Authority:** Health and Safety code, Division 2.5, section 1797. 220. California Administrative Code, Title 13, Section 1105(c).
- III. Definitions:**
- A. **Alert:** The hospital volume or availability of beds or staffing, and the system should be alerted to potential significant delays.
 - B. **E-APOD:** If ambulance patient offloading times are extended, consistent with policy #4170 – E-APOD, transporting agency providers can initiate E-APOD.
 - C. **CT Bypass:** The hospital’s CT scanner is out of service and is unable to provide emergency CT scans to determine emergency management of patients (eg. altered mental status, traumatic and non-traumatic, suspected intra-abdominal catastrophe, etc.)
 - D. **(INT) Internal Disruption:** The hospital is unable to receive any patient due to an internal emergency (e.g. fire, power outage, water disruption, etc.)
 - E. **Helipad:** The hospital’s helipad is inaccessible for use and the hospital would be inappropriate for patient transport by air at current time.
- IV. Policy:**
- A. Hospitals may request to go on hospital diversion (bypass) due to CT bypass or internal disruption.
 - B. Final authority rests on the base hospital physician for patient destinations.
 - C. Any patient with uncontrollable problems in the field, such as: unmanageable or worsening airway, uncontrolled hemorrhage, imminent delivery, or cardiac arrest, will be transported to the nearest most accessible receiving center.
 - 1. EMS providers shall consult with the BHP and request to not be diverted for any patients in which EMS providers feel would likely deteriorate due to the diversion.
 - D. If all receiving hospitals are on diversion, then patients will go to the nearest hospital.
- V. Procedure:**
- A. Hospital diversion shall be authorized by the emergency department physician and hospital administration, or designee.
 - B. To initiate diversion, ReddiNet’s “STATUS” tab shall be utilized to update the hospitals diversion status. (ReddiNet reports will be utilized to track monthly diversion hours.)
 - C. Notification shall be made to Imperial County Sheriff’s Office through ReddiNet.
 - D. Transport agencies shall be notified via ReddiNet.

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E. Deactivation of hospital diversion will also be updated utilizing ReddiNet's "STATUS" tab.

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