



May 20, 2020

FROM: Chad Newland, Operations Manager

**RE: CONTRA COSTA AMR TREAT AND REFER PATIENT GUIDELINES**

This purpose of this memorandum is to provide further guidance to field providers in response to the Contra Costa County Health Services Administrative Bulletin No. 20-BUL-007 dated April 8, 2020.

This Treat and Refer guideline from the LEMSA was intended to allow for refusal of transport of certain low risk patients, as a way to mitigate an anticipated capacity surge to the EMS system due to the COVID pandemic. This capacity surge has, so far, not occurred.

The LEMSA published further clarification on Administrative Bulletin No. 20-BUL-007, through a document titled Treat and Refer FAQs 5-14-2020 (attached). The LEMSA clarified that the decision to implement Treat and Refer is at the discretion of the Provider Agency, i.e. AMR and CCCFPD.

**Effective immediately the Treat and Refer guideline is no longer authorized to be used by CCCFPD or AMR personnel.**

Continue, as in the past, to use the Against Medical Advice (AMA) and Release at Scene (RAS) processes in cases where appropriate. These both are outlined in CCCEMSA Policy 4007 (attached).

<https://cchealth.org/ems/pdf/Treat-and-Refer-FAQs.pdf>

<https://cchealth.org/ems/pdf/2020-policies/4P4007AMARAS.pdf>