

Tuolumne County
Emergency Medical Services Agency

Title: **Continuous Quality Improvement**

EMS Policy No. **640.00**

Medical Director Signature:

Creation Date: 3/30/2000

Revision Date: 8/2021

EMS Coordinator Signature:

Review Date: 8/2026

I) Purpose

The purpose office policy is to establish the basic structure, organization and responsibilities of a system-wide EMS Continuous Quality Improvement program to monitor, review, evaluate and improve the delivery of prehospital emergency medical and trauma care.

II) Authority

Division 2.5, California Health and Safety Code, Sections 1797.220 and 1797.221; California Code do Regulations, Division 9 Sections 100107, 100147and 100172

III) Policy

- A) The Tuolumne County Emergency Medical Services Agency (TCEMSA) shall maintain a system-wide EMS Continuous Quality Improvement program to monitor, review, evaluate, and improve the delivery of prehospital emergency medical and trauma care. The CQI program shall involve all system participants and shall include but not be limited to the following activities:
- 1) Prospective - designed to prevent potential problems.
 - 2) Concurrent - designed to identify problems or potential problems during the delivery of patient care.
 - 3) Retrospective - designed to identify problems or potential problems and prevent their occurrence.
 - 4) Reporting/feedback - all CQI activities shall be reported to the TCEMSA in a manner to be jointly determined. As a result of CQI activities, changes in system design may be made.
- B) Continuous Quality Improvement
- 1) The TCEMSA shall establish and maintain a CQI committee to oversee the CQI Program.
 - 2) The CQI committee shall be chaired by the TCEMSA Medical Director and include the TCEMSA EMS coordinator, the Base Hospital Medical Directors and Nurse Liaisons, Medical Director and Nurse Liaison from acute care hospitals within Tuolumne County, an Ambulance Representative, and CQI Coordinator from Ambulance companies operating within Tuolumne County, and representatives from other participating prehospital and emergency medical dispatching agencies.
 - 3) All proceedings from the CQI committee and its subcommittees are confidential and protected under section 1157.7 of the evidence code: "The prohibition relating to discovery or testimony provided in Section 1157.7 shall be applicable to proceedings and records of any committee established by a local governmental agency to monitor, evaluate and report on the necessity, quality and level of specialty healthcare services, including but not limited to trauma care services, provided by a general acute care hospital which has been designated or recognized by that governmental agency as qualified to render specialty healthcare services.

- C) Each participating agency (Hospital, ALS, BLS and dispatch) shall submit a CQI plan to the TCEMSA for approval. The time frame for submission shall be determined by TCEMSA.
- D) Each participating agency (Hospital, ALS, BLS and dispatch) shall conduct an annual review of their CQI plan and submit changes or alterations to TCEMSA for approval.
- E) TCEMSA will evaluate the implementation of each participating agency's CQI plan and activities annually and request appropriate revisions as needed.