

County of Santa Clara
Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System
Public Health
Emergency Medical Services




HHS05 022409

Prepared by: Colleen Martin
Health Care Program Manager
Reviewed by: Bruce H. Lee
EMS Director
Submitted by: Dan Peddycord, RN, MPA/HA
Public Health Administrator

DATE: February 24, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: 
Kim Roberts
SCVHHS - Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Resolution Delegating Authority to Execute Agreements for the Continuation of the Comprehensive Stroke Management System and Designation of Stroke Centers within Santa Clara County

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution delegating authority to the Public Health Administrator, or designee, to negotiate and execute contracts and contract amendments and take all related actions with hospitals relating to the comprehensive Stroke Management System and designation of stroke centers within Santa Clara County for period March 1, 2009 through February 28, 2012, following approval by County Counsel as to form and legality, and approval by the Office of the County Executive. Delegation of authority shall expire on February 28, 2012. (Roll Call Vote)

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no impact on the General Fund as a result of this action. Each participating hospital agrees to pay the County a fee in the amount of \$5,000 per year for costs associated with administration and evaluation of the Stroke Management System.

CONTRACT HISTORY

At its September 13, 2005 meeting, the Board adopted a resolution delegating authority to the Director of Public Health to negotiate and execute agreements and amendments with local hospitals relating to implementation of the comprehensive Stroke Management System and designating stroke centers within Santa Clara County. The delegation expired on June 30, 2008.

The current agreements with eight primary stroke centers in Santa Clara County, including Good Samaritan Hospital, El Camino Hospital, Kaiser San Jose, Kaiser Santa Clara, O'Connor Hospital, Regional Medical Center, Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, and Stanford Medical Center, expire on February 28, 2009. Upon EMS Agency's determination that these hospitals have satisfactorily performed the obligations as outlined in the contract and satisfied the Stroke Center Standards, the County shall have the option to extend the term of these agreements for an additional term of three years, upon notice to and agreement of the hospital.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Continuation of the comprehensive Stroke Management System consistent with the recommendations of the Stroke Care Task Force, that includes the designation of Stroke Centers, as well as modification of pre-hospital stroke protocols, ambulance redirection policies, training plans, public education, data collection and quality assurance programs, will enable Santa Clara County residents and visitors to take full advantage of the significant advances in stroke management, and the resulting reduction in morbidity and mortality of stroke in our community. The Public Health Department is requesting approval of the recommended action in order to execute agreements/amendments with designated stroke centers in the most timely manner possible.

BACKGROUND

Under the leadership of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Santa Clara County became the first California County to implement a comprehensive stroke system. As a result, every patient who calls 911 with symptoms of an acute stroke is taken immediately and directly to a certified stroke center where they are evaluated immediately and are treated with specially trained emergency physicians and stroke neurologists. In effect, our prehospital policies have had the effect of raising our community's standard of care for stroke to an unparalleled degree making Santa Clara County the safest place to have a stroke in California.

Since the March 2006 implementation of Santa Clara County's stroke system, other organizations have paid close attention. The American Stroke Association, the National Stroke Association, the Stroke Awareness Foundation, and the Peninsula Stroke Foundation have recognized our EMS Agency as a model. Santa Clara County's program has been showcased at conferences and in news reports. Other California counties have followed suit by adopting their own stroke policies. Also, in recognition of the enhanced standard of care for stroke care established in this county, the California Department of Public Health, under a provision of California's Master Plan for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention and Treatment, has recommended statewide policies based on Santa Clara County's novel program.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Failure to approve the recommended actions may impact the timely execution of agreements with designated stroke centers.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution Delegating Signature Authority for Stroke Designation