I. Declaration

The Santa Clara County Emergency Medical Services Agency has determined that an unscheduled temporary revision to a Santa Clara County Prehospital Care Policy is required.

Consistent with Santa Clara County Prehospital Care Policy 109: Policy Development and Implementation, the EMS Director, or designee, may issue Administrative Orders when immediate changes are necessary. This Administrative Order immediately places into effect a temporary change to Santa Clara County Prehospital Care Policy # 302: Prehospital Care Asset – Minimum Inventory Requirements.

II. Statement of Change

The minimum quantity requirement of Dopamine for ALS Non-Transport units will be removed for the month of May 2018. Non-Transport ALS assets will not be able to receive restock of Dopamine from the County EOA Emergency Ambulance Service Provider during the month of May 2018. ALS Non-Transport assets with expired dopamine are temporarily authorized to operate without dopamine in their inventory, but are asked to not dispose of any expired Dopamine. In the rare cases when a BLS ambulance arrives to transport a patient from the scene of an emergency call (ambulance availability query), Dopamine may not be available.

III. Rationale for Change

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has listed Dopamine Hydrochloride Injection as currently in shortage. The County EOA Emergency Ambulance Service Provider only has enough inventory for their ALS ambulances. The FDA has not extended the expiration dates at this time. Dopamine was used only 10 times in CY2017 in the Santa Clara County Prehospital environment.

IV. Revised Documents

- Santa Clara County Prehospital Care Policy # 302: Prehospital Care Asset – Minimum Inventory Requirements.

V. New Documents

- None

VI. Rescinded Documents

- None
VII. Questions

Please direct any questions to Ken Miller, EMS Medical Director, by phone at 408.794.0615, or via email at kenneth.miller@ems.sccgov.org.

VIII. Execution

Administrative Order # 2018-003 is in effect as of May 1, 2018. This Administrative Order has resulted in a temporary change to Santa Clara County Prehospital Care Policy that will be revisited before May 31, 2018.

Ken Miller, MD, PhD
EMS Medical Director

Jackie Lowther, RN, MSN, MBA
EMS Agency Director
Dopamine will be an optional item for Non-Transport ALS units until the drug becomes more readily available.