



COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH CARE AGENCY		EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
Policy Title: Oxygen Administration and Basic Airway Adjunct Use by Public Safety First Aid Personnel		Policy Number 1604	
APPROVED:  Administration: Steve L. Carroll, Paramedic		Date: July 1, 2025	
APPROVED:  Medical Director: Daniel Shepherd, M.D.		Date: July 1, 2025	
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- I. PURPOSE:
 - A. To outline criteria for approved Public Safety First Aid (PSFA) administration of oxygen through a nasal cannula (NC), non-rebreather mask (NRB), or bag-valve mask (BVM), and for the use of basic airway adjuncts – specifically oropharyngeal airways (OPA) and nasopharyngeal airways (NPA).
 - B. To provide medical direction and oxygen administration and basic airway adjunct parameters for approved PSFA optional skills provider agencies and personnel in the County of Ventura.
- II. AUTHORITY: California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2.3, Section 100027.03.
- III. POLICY:
 - A. Training shall be completed in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Section 100019 and VCEMS Policy 1602 – PSFA Optional Skills and Training
 - B. PSFA agency training director shall be responsible for the following:
 - 1. Ensuring the agency’s supply of oxygen, oxygen delivery devices, and basic airway adjuncts remain current and not expired at all times
 - 2. Ensuring proper and efficient deployment of oxygen and associated equipment for use within the agency
 - 3. Prompt replacement of any equipment that is used during care, or that is expired, damaged, or otherwise deemed unusable
 - 4. Ensuring all personnel that will be administering oxygen and/or utilizing any associated equipment have received appropriate training
 - 5. Maintain records of all documented use, restocking, damaged, expired or otherwise unusable oxygen and/or associated equipment

IV. PROCEDURE:

A. Indications

1. Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath with signs and symptoms of poor oxygenation
2. Unresponsive and not breathing

B. Contraindications

1. No contraindications

C. Oxygen Administration

1. Difficulty Breathing or Shortness of Breath
 - a. Ensure EMS has been activated through use of the 911 system
 - b. Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and maintain body substance isolation precautions
 - c. Assess patient's level of responsiveness
 - d. Ensure patient's airway is patent and assess patient's respiratory rate and effort
 - e. Administer oxygen using nasal cannula or non-rebreather mask as indicated
 - f. Report administration of oxygen to prehospital personnel for additional assessment and follow-up care, as needed
 - g. Document administration of oxygen as indicated per PSFA agency policies and procedures
2. Unresponsive and Not Breathing
 - a. Ensure EMS has been activated through use of the 911 system
 - b. Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and maintain body substance isolation precautions
 - c. Begin chest compressions
 - d. Obtain an AED
 - e. Ensure patient's airway is patent utilize appropriate basic airway adjunct(s) such as an OPA or NPA as indicated
 - f. Perform ventilations via BVM with oxygen as indicated
 - g. Consider causes for current condition, such as opioid overdose anaphylaxis or exposure to nerve agent and treat those conditions per appropriate VCEMS PSFA policies
 - h. Report administration of oxygen to prehospital personnel for additional assessment and follow-up care, as needed
 - i. Document administration of oxygen as indicated per PSFA agency policies and procedures