

HOSPITAL CT AND PHYSICAL PLANT CASUALTY DIVERSION

I. PURPOSE

To see that emergency patients are transported to the most accessible medical facility that is staffed, equipped, and prepared to administer emergency care appropriate to the needs of the patient.

II. TYPES OF DIVERSION

- Inoperable CT scanner (CT Divert)
- Physical plant casualty (PPC Divert)

III. HOSPITAL ELIGIBILITY FOR DIVERSION

- A. **CT scanner inoperative (CT divert).** If a hospital's CT scanner is inoperative, diversion of specific ambulance patients may be considered. These patients may include those with:
1. Suspected stroke – duration of signs and symptoms two hours or less.
 2. New onset of altered consciousness for traumatic or medical reasons.
- B. **Physical Plant Casualty.** A hospital is eligible for physical plant casualty divert whenever an internal disaster has occurred that has rendered emergency department services unavailable to the public, e.g., Bomb threat, fire or explosion.

IV. PROCEDURE FOR REQUESTING, IMPLEMENTING AND CANCELLING DIVERT STATUS

- A. Obtain authorization from hospital administration according to hospital's internal procedures.
- B. Update hospital status on ReddiNet following ReddiNet procedure below.
- C. Physical Plant Casualty only: When the circumstances of the internal disaster preclude the above steps, notify Sheriff's dispatch (925-646-2441) of the nature of the emergency and request dispatch to notify all ambulance providers, the On-Call Health Officer, and the EMS Duty Officer.
- D. To re-establish normal ambulance traffic, update hospital status on ReddiNet or, if ReddiNet is unavailable, request Sheriff's dispatch to notify all ambulance providers, the On-Call Health Officer, and the EMS Agency.

V. REDDINET NOTIFICATION OF DIVERSION STATUS

ReddiNet is the only accepted method for reporting CT or PPC diversion. Once a hospital's status has been changed on ReddiNet, ambulance dispatch centers automatically receive the notification and then notify their ambulances of the diversion status. The ReddiNet "memo" feature will not reliably result in ambulance diversion and should not be used.