

RIVERSIDE COUNTY



COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY • DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY

TO: EMS System Participants

FROM: Humberto Ochoa, Medical Director *HRO*

DATE: February 15, 2011

SUBJECT: CPAP Equipment and Nitroglycerin Paste

Policy 7850 for treating dyspnea with suspected CHF and the performance standard for CPAP became effective on November 23, 2010. All paramedic providers have until April 1, 2011 to implement the use of CPAP and nitroglycerin paste. The following additions to our drug and equipment list are effective immediately and must be implemented by April 1, 2011:

The liter flow regulator of your portable O₂ system must include a Diameter Index Safety System Male (DISS-M) connector.

The recommended configuration of your pre-packaged O₂-RESQ™ System includes the flow generator and circuit with a medium Bi-Trac ED mask, head strap, and adjustable (5, 7.5, 10 cmH₂O) CPAP valve.

Additional O₂-RESQ™ CPAP equipment includes:

- Large Bi-Trac ED mask
- 12.5 cmH₂O Valve
- 15 cmH₂O Valve
- 20 cmH₂O Valve

All of the above CPAP equipment must be carried in a minimum quantity of one each. It is up to each agency or service to establish the par levels necessary to meet their operational requirements.

Nitroglycerine paste 2% must be carried in either the 30 g tube, 60 g tube, or in 1 g foil packets. A minimum of 4 g / four foil packets / enough to apply one inch four times is required, along with four impermeable dose-measuring paper applicators. Each agency or service needs to establish the par levels necessary to meet their operational requirements.