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REGULATORY/ MEDICAL HEALTH SERVICES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

DATE: October 26, 2018

TO: Emergency Medical Care Committee

FROM: Laurent Repass, NRP
Information Systems Chief

SUBJECT: Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT) 2017-18 Trend Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive information on APOT background and trend report.

DISCUSSION:

In 2015, AB1223 (O'Donnell) was enacted which added sections 1797.120 & 1797.225 to the California Health and Safety Code. This mandated that the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) develop a statewide methodology for calculating and reporting ambulance patient offload times by a Local Emergency Medical Services Agency (LEMSA).

A statewide standard methodology was based on input received from stakeholders and requires the reporting of the 90th percentile ranking, not the average (mean) or the median. **For example, an APOT of 28:42 minutes means that 90% of the time, patients are offloaded in 28:42 minutes or less.**

APOT is measured from arrival to the Emergency Department (ED) until patient care is transferred to ED staff. Specifically:

- Arrival means "Ambulance wheels stop" outside of the ED and the time is recorded by computer aided dispatch (CAD).
- Offload time occurs when the patient is off the ambulance gurney and report has been given to receiving hospital personnel. This is recorded manually by the EMS provider.

On a monthly basis, Orange County Emergency Medical Services publishes an APOT Report (http://www.healthdisasteroc.org/ems/system_reports/ems_core_measures) that includes the month and cumulative totals.

Included with this memo is the Orange County Ambulance Patient Offload Time 2017-18 Report which illustrates APOT totals month over month since data was first reported by OCEMS through August 2018.

Orange County Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT) 2017-2018

