

VC EMS TRAINING BULLETIN

Bulletin 30
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IMPROVING QUALITY...CONTINUOUSLY



Ventura County Emergency Medical Services Agency



Critical Information for Patients with Altered Neurological Function



Certain interventions, procedures, or medications that are administered or performed in the hospital are dependent on critical information from the field. Certain medications or procedures can be lethal when contraindicated in certain categories of patients, so verifying this information and obtaining info in a timely manner is absolutely critical.

When on scene of a patient that presents with some type of altered neurological function (stroke, unconscious, etc), some or all of the following elements must be obtained and relayed (accurately) to receiving hospital staff:

- Patient name and date of birth
- History of Present Illness (onset time, current symptoms, etc)
- Past Medical History, Patient Medication Allergies, and Current Medications
- Witness information and best contact number (cell phone where witness can be immediately reached)
- Patient identification and belongings

If there is a language barrier on scene, or if the patient is alone and aphasic or unconscious, personnel on scene must make every attempt to gather the above information and deliver it to receiving hospital staff with the patient upon transfer of care. If all of the information cannot be collected, then critical elements related to patient identification and history of present illness must be obtained and delivered. Use of a translator while on scene for non-English speaking patients is indicated.

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