



COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH CARE AGENCY		EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
Policy Title: Use of Pre-existing Vascular Device (PVAD)		Policy Number: 716	
APPROVED: Administration:	 Steven L. Carroll, Paramedic	Date: December 1, 2019	
APPROVED: Medical Director	 Daniel Shepherd, MD	Date: December 1, 2019	
Origination Date:	March 2, 1992	Effective Date:	December 1, 2019
Date Revised:	May 9, 2019		
Last Reviewed:	May 9, 2019		
Review Date:	May 31, 2021		

- I. PURPOSE: To define the use of pre-existing vascular access devices (PVAD) by Paramedics in the prehospital setting.
- II. AUTHORITY: Authority: California Health and Safety Code, §1798, §1798.2; §1798.160 and §1798.170, and California Code of Regulations, Title 22, §100145 and §100146.
- III. POLICY: PVADs may be used in the prehospital setting as set forth by this document.
- IV. Definition: A PVAD is a heparin/saline lock or an indwelling catheter/device placed into a vein, to provide vascular access for those patients requiring long term intravenous therapy or hemodialysis. Internal subcutaneous indwelling devices are not to be accessed by prehospital field personnel.
- V. Procedure: After successful completion of an approved Ventura County training module, a Paramedic may access a PVAD and administer normal saline and medications, for a patient with the following conditions:
 - A. Peripheral Vein Heparin/Saline Lock
 1. Any conditions requiring intravenous fluids and/or medications
 - B. Central Line devices with externally visible access ports –PICC, tunneled catheters, or temporary dialysis catheters
Urgent need to administer fluids and/or medications which can only be given by the IV route and a peripheral IV site is not readily/immediately available.
 - C. Hemodialysis Fistula (to be used only in the absence of IO, peripheral, or central IV access):
Urgent need to administer fluids and/or medications which can only be given by the IV route and an alternate IV site is not readily/immediately available. Attempt to aspirate at least 5 ml of blood prior to administering any medications.