

EL DORADO COUNTY EMS AGENCY

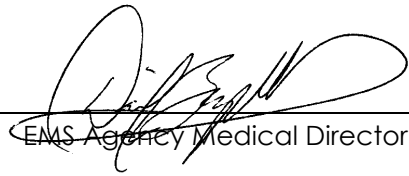
FIELD POLICIES

Effective: July 1, 2013

Reviewed: July 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019

Revised: N/A

Scope: ALS Personnel



EMS Agency Medical Director

MALFUNCTIONING ICD

PURPOSE:

To allow a patient with a physician prescribed ICD deactivating magnet to temporarily deactivate a malfunctioning ICD while in the presence of paramedics with continuous cardiac monitoring capabilities.

DEFINITIONS:

Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD) - is a device that monitors heart rhythms, and delivers shocks if ventricular tachycardia or ventricular fibrillation is detected.

POLICY:

- 1) In the event of a malfunctioning ICD as evidenced by cardiac monitoring, paramedics may allow a patient or a patient's family member, if so trained, to place an ICD deactivating magnet on the patient's chest directly over the ICD. This may only be performed by the patient or other authorized party and must be in compliance with orders from the patient's physician.
- 2) At no time shall the paramedic personally place the ICD deactivating magnet on the patient.
- 3) Once the ICD deactivating magnet is in place cardiac monitoring shall be continuous.
- 4) If at any time the patient goes into ventricular fibrillation or ventricular tachycardia the paramedic shall immediately remove the ICD deactivating magnet.
- 5) In cases where an ICD is delivering inappropriate shocks to a patient and for whatever reason they cannot utilize the ICD deactivating magnet, the paramedic may treat the patient if the ICD deactivating magnet does not function properly or if you encounter a patient who does not have an ICD deactivating magnet.