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ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE

No. 20-CLN-005

TO: Contra Costa County EMS Providers

FROM: Dr. David Goldstein, EMS Medical Director 

DATE: March 30, 2020

SUBJECT: Destination Considerations for Patients with Opioid Withdrawal

In 2019, Contra Costa Regional Medical Center (CCRMC) Emergency Department was selected as one of 50 California Bridge Program sites for the treatment of Opioid Use Disorders. CCRMC is the only hospital in Contra Costa County to receive this designation.

The criteria for Bridge Designation include:

- 24 hours a day-7 day a week-365 day a year Access to Opioid Use Disorder treatment
- Initiation of Buprenorphine, a medication that stops withdrawal symptoms and limits the possibility of overdose, is offered to every appropriate patient in the Emergency Department.
- Access to outpatient treatment program initiated from the Emergency Department for all patients, regardless of insurance status including uninsured, MediCal, MediCare, and private insurers including Kaiser.

Beginning **April 1st 2020**, all patients that are experiencing symptoms of opioid withdrawal, including those patients that have received Naloxone after suspected opioid overdose, should be transported to CCRMC Emergency Department for initiation of

Buprenorphine and link to outpatient treatment unless they elect another ED or refuse transport.

Encourage patients to choose CCRMC as their destination in the setting of Opioid withdrawal or overdose. Buprenorphine treatment is immediately available in the Emergency Department 24-7-365 and outpatient follow up will be coordinated for all appropriate patients regardless of payer status.

If you have any further questions, please call Contra Costa County EMS Agency at 925-608-5454.

