



# County of Santa Cruz

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES PROGRAM

Policy No. 1500  
Reviewed 01/07

### Emergency Medical Services Program

Approved

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Medical Director

Subject: NERVE GAS ANTIDOTES

This policy outlines the criteria for use of nerve gas antidotes in Santa Cruz County.

#### **I. Indications For Nerve Gas Antidotes**

Nerve gas antidote auto-injectors are to be used when first responder personnel are exposed to nerve gas agents (e.g. Sarin, Soman, Tabun, VX) and have signs and symptoms of nerve gas exposure. These antidotes are not given prophylactically. Indications for auto-injection of nerve gas antidote include the following signs and symptoms (mnemonic SLUDGE)

Salivation  
Lacrimation  
Urination  
Defecation  
Gastrointestinal pain and gas  
Emesis

#### **II. Policy**

All fire service first responders and emergency ambulance personnel will receive training in the signs and symptoms of nerve gas exposure and auto-injection of nerve gas antidotes to include a review of the signs and symptoms of nerve gas exposure and hands-on practice performing auto-injection of nerve gas antidotes. Any law enforcement agency that wants to provide its personnel with auto-injection nerve gas antidotes will provide its personnel with the same training. The EMS Medical Director will approve a fire service agency or emergency ambulance provider to receive nerve gas auto-injectors upon documentation of the required training. The EMS medical director may require refresher training.

The EMS Agency recommends that each first response vehicle and ambulance be equipped with 3 Mark I kits (one atropine, one 2-PAM) and 1 CANA (Valium) per person per vehicle. The inventory shall be checked and documented each shift along with remaining pharmaceutical inventory. The manufacturer states that auto-injectors should not be subjected to extremes of temperature.

The Mark I autoinjector kit includes Atropine 2mg/0.7 ml and 2-PAMCl 600mg/2ml. The CANA autoinjector includes Valium 10mg/2ml.