



## ***EMS Special Memorandum – #23-004***

Date: December 18, 2023

To: Mendocino/ Sonoma County EMS Providers and System Stakeholders

From: Bryan Cleaver

Mark Luoto, MD

Regional EMS Administrator

Regional EMS Medical Director

**Re: Authorization to Discontinue purchase/use of Ketamine Hydrochloride**

---

The intent of this special memo is to provide authorization for ALS providers within the region to discontinue stock/use of Ketamine Hydrochloride as a Coastal Valleys EMS Agency required medication.

Due to the intended removal of Ketamine Hydrochloride from CVEMSA Treatment Guideline in early 2024 and difficulty in obtaining the medication secondary to a national shortage, this special memo allows regional ALS providers to make the transition away from Ketamine Hydrochloride as a required medication for pain in advance of the official protocol change.

Providers may continue to use remaining stock and discontinue the purchase of Ketamine effective immediately. All Stock of Ketamine Hydrochloride must be removed from circulation within the agency at that time, assuring that no one ambulance, portable medication bag, or apparatus still contains the medication.

Paramedic Service provider agencies and paramedics practicing under Coastal Valleys EMS Agency medical control may continue to administer Ketorolac Tromethamine or Fentanyl Citrate for pain management as per Treatment Guideline Policy #7305.

Please direct any questions or concerns regarding to content of this EMS Special Memo to [CoastalValleysEMSAgency@sonoma-county.org](mailto:CoastalValleysEMSAgency@sonoma-county.org)