MOUNTAIN-VALLEY EMS AGENCY
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

APPROVED:

| Signature On File In EMS Office |
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| Executive Director |
| Signature On File In EMS Office |
| Medical Director |

POLICY: 554.52
TITLE: Dystonic Reactions to Phenothiazine Drugs (Adult)

## DYSTONIC REACTION TO PHENOTHIAZINE DRUGS

I. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9
II. PURPOSE: To serve as a patient treatment standard for EMT-Is and Paramedics within their scope of practice.
III. PROTOCOL: Phenothiazines are prescribed for their antiemetic and anti-cholernergic properties. Phenothiazines include: chlorpromazine (Thorazine), metoclopramide (Reglan), prochlorperazine (Compazine) and promethazine (Phenergan)

A non-phenothiazine medication that can cause dystonic reactions is haloperidol (Haldol).
Symptoms might include restlessness; muscle spasms of the neck; jaw and back' movement of eyeballs (oculogyric crisis); frightened; facial grimace; protruding tongue, back arching (opisthotonus).

Phenothiazines are prescribed for their antiemetic and tranquilizing properties. Phenothiazines include: chlorpromazine (Thorazine), metoclopramide (Reglan), prochlorperazine (Compazine) and promethazine (Phenergan and Atarax).

NOTE: Phenothiazine reactions may occur at normal dosing levels. Activated charcoal is not necessary.

## STANDING ORDERS

## ASSESS

## OXYGEN:

MONITOR:
IV/IO ACCESS:
DIPHENHYDRAMINE:

CAB

Oxygen delivery as appropriate

Treat rhythm as appropriate.

TKO

25 mg IV/IO push. May repeat 25 mg ONCE if needed. May administer 25 mg IM if IV access not promptly available.

## BASE PHYSICIAN ORDERS

## RELEASE-AT-SCENE

Competent adults with normal vital signs, blood sugar, and mental status 10 minutes after ALS intervention, may be released if a cause of their condition and its solution has been identified. Refer to Refusal of EMS Service Policy 570.35.

