I. PURPOSE: To define the criteria for designation as a STEMI Receiving Center in Ventura County.

II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1798, 1798.101, 1798.105, 1798.2 and California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 100175.

III. POLICY:
A. A STEMI Receiving Center (SRC), approved and designated by Ventura County EMS shall meet the following requirements:
   1. All the requirements of a Receiving Hospital in VCEMS Policy 420.
   2. All the requirements of a SRC in VCEMS Policy 440.
   3. Designate a SRC Coordinator who will have the responsibility for communication with VC EMS.
   4. Operate a cardiac catheterization lab licensed by the Department of Health Services and approved for emergency percutaneous coronary interventions.
   5. Licensed Cardiovascular Surgery.
   7. Have policies for patients to receive emergent angiography or emergent fibrinolysis, based on physician decisions for individual patients.
   8. Maintain a hospital STEMI Quality Improvement Program.
   9. Actively participate in the Ventura County EMS STEMI Quality Improvement Program and comply with data submission and case review standards as established by VCEMS.
   10. Will accept all ambulance-transported patients if the interpretation on the monitor meets the manufacturer guidelines for a POS STEMI ECG.
except when on internal disaster or no cardiac catheterization lab is available, regardless of ICU/CCU or ED saturation status.

11. Have policies and procedures that allow the automatic acceptance of any STEMI patient from a Ventura County Hospital upon notification by the transferring physician.

12. Have available continuous Intra-aortic balloon pump and Impella device capability with staffing.

13. Have policies in place for the transfer of STEMI patients.

B. Designation

1. Application:
   Eligible hospitals shall submit a written request for SRC approval to the VC EMS, documenting the compliance of the hospital with Ventura County SRC Standards.

2. Approval:
   SRC approval or denial shall be made in writing by VCEMS to the requesting Hospital within two weeks after receipt of the request for approval and all required documentation.

3. VC EMS may deny, suspend, or revoke the approval of a SRC for failure to comply with any applicable policies, procedures, or regulations.
   Requests for review or appeal of such decisions shall be brought to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors for appropriate action.

4. The VCEMS Medical Director may grant an exception to a portion of this policy upon substantiation of need by the PSC that compliance with the regulation would not be in the best interests of the persons served within the affected area.

5. SRCs shall be reviewed on an annual basis.
   a. SRCs shall receive notification of evaluation from the VCEMS.
   b. SRCs shall respond in writing regarding program compliance.
   c. On-site SRC visits for evaluative purposes may occur.
   d. SRCs shall notify VCEMS by telephone, followed by a letter or email within 48 hours, of changes in program compliance or performance.