I. PURPOSE: To prepare nurses for their role in directing the prehospital care activities of paramedics. In order for the nurse to attain these necessary skills, practical as well as didactic (including field care audit) sessions shall be provided. Only nurses who fulfill the criteria in Policy 321 are eligible to take the course. The Ventura County EMS Agency shall approve all programs.

II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code 1797.56 and 1797.58

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

A. Minimum of 40 hours in length, only one class day may be missed.

B. Topics will include:

1. VCEMS Overview
2. MICN Role
3. Communication Protocol/Terminology
4. Legal Issues
5. Documentation
6. Paramedic Reporting
7. Hazmat
8. EMS Overview
9. Pharmacology
10. All VCEMS Policy 705 Treatment Guidelines
11. “STEMI”
12. “Ventura County Trauma System/Trauma Triage/Trauma Treatment Guidelines
13. AED/Dispatch
14. CISM
15. Cardiac Arrest/Dysrhythmias
16. ART/BART, and CAM
17. Homework Review
18. MICN Practice
19. MCI/Triage
20. Diversion/ReddiNet
21. Pediatrics (may be presented as its own topic or incorporated into each of the above)
22. Weapons of Mass Destruction

C. Course shall be coordinated by a Prehospital Care Coordinator (PCC) from a Ventura County Base Hospital, in consultation with an Emergency Department Physician involved in prehospital care.

D. Individual topics may be taught by medical/nursing personnel with recent Advanced Life Support prehospital care and teaching experience. The course coordinator must approve all instructors.

E. Each topic shall have predetermined behavioral objectives which clearly specify the relevancy of the material to the MICN’s role.

F. The course shall be reviewed and revised annually to keep up with additions and/or changes to policies and protocol.

IV. COUNTY EXAMINATION:
A. Only those candidates who successfully pass the MICN Course will be eligible to sit for the County Examination for purposes of working as an MICN in a Base Hospital.

B. The exam shall consist of 100 questions covering all of the topics listed above in III.B.

C. Candidates shall pass the exam with an overall score of 80%.

D. The exam shall be compiled and reviewed by the EMS Medical Director and the PCC’s. The Course Coordinator or individual instructors may submit questions for the exam. Each question shall be correlated to the Objectives, and be based on current standards of care in ALS services.
E. The Exam shall be given as needed. Scheduling of the exam shall be the responsibility of the Course Coordinator. The EMS Agency will administer the test.