EMS Information Bulletin 2018-09

DATE: May 3, 2018

SUBJECT: Approved and Required Medications List Clarification

TO: Pennsylvania EMS Agencies

FROM: Aaron M. Rhone, EMS Program Manager
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
PA Department of Health
(717) 787-8740

This EMS Information Bulletin will provide further clarification on Pennsylvania Bulletin, Approved and Required Medications List for Emergency Medical Services Agencies and Emergency Medical Providers; 48 Pa.B. 2012 of Saturday, April 7, 2018.

Quick Response Services (QRS) are required to carry oxygen, while a clerical oversight occurred in the medication list, the requirement to carry oxygen is established in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, Vehicle Equipment and Supply Requirements for Emergency Medical Agencies; 47 Pa.B. 3437 of Saturday, June 17, 2017. In that, a QRS must carry a Cylinder with a capacity of at least 300 Liters (D Size), with 500 psi Yoke Cylinder with a minimum total pressure of 500 psi.

Additionally, an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) may provide care and administer medications, as published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, Scope of Practice for Emergency Medical Services Providers; 47 Pa.B. 2017 of Saturday, June 10, 2017, that are within the Scope of Practice for an EMT, while functioning with a licensed agency at the Basic Life Support (BLS) or QRS service level with approval of the agency medical director. In this case, the agency shall secure all medications and equipment so that only EMS providers authorized to administer the medications and use that equipment to provide EMS have access to those medications and equipment.

Please forward any questions to your regional EMS council.