EMS Information Bulletin 2021-14

DATE: September 9, 2021

SUBJECT: 2021 PA DOH Statewide Protocol Update

TO: Regional EMS Councils
PA EMS Agencies & Providers
PA EMS Agency Medical Directors

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The Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, is pleased to announce the release of the 2021 PA Department of Health Statewide Protocols via the department’s website. Additionally, on September 11, 2021 the PA Bulletin will publish the updated Scope of Practice, Air Scope of Practice, Critical Care Transport (CCT) Scope of Practice, Required Equipment, and the Medication lists.

The PowerPoint and Lesson Plans for the BLS and ALS update courses have been completed. They have been released to regional councils for distribution to agency medical directors to conduct in person trainings. Both the BLS and ALS educational update courses have been released to TRAIN-PA.

EMS providers will also need to complete the 2021 Traumatic Brain Injury Protocol Update Course. This learning module is still being developed and will be available in the near future. Of special note if an EMS provider previously completed “Applying Head Injury Guidelines Save Lives: The EPIC TBI Trial (Course Number 1000034503) they are exempt from this requirement.

Please note that these protocols will be in effect starting November 1, 2021. All providers are required to complete the protocol update course(s) prior to this date. Once this training is complete, the EMS Agency Medical Director may authorize the use of these protocols prior to November.

Delivery of the training is at the discretion of the EMS Agency Medical Director through one of the following methods:

1. In person presentation of the educational sessions;
2. A designee from the EMS Agency to conduct the educational sessions;
3. Accept the LMS program version as course completion for those unable to attend an in-person training.

EMS Providers should contact their EMS Agency Medical Director for information relating to the educational presentations and authorization prior to implementation.