



December 5, 2023

To: EMS Directors, Medical Directors, and Training Officers

From: Ed DesChamps, MD – State Medical Director  
Garrett Clanton, MD – Assistant State Medical Director  
Mitch Stewart – EMS Section Manager  
Karen Moore – Trauma Section Manager

Subject: Recent Protocol and Formulary Updates

Our office has received some questions related to recent changes in EMS protocols and formulary. The following has been approved by the Division of EMS & Trauma and the SC EMS Advisory Council for use in the field. For additional information, and links to the updated protocols, please visit: <https://scdhec.gov/ems-protocols-forms>.

**Changes to SC EMS Formulary:**

- Levetiracetam (Keppra)
- Hydrocortisone (Solu-Cortef; Cortef)
- Haldol (Haloperidol)
- Rocuronium
  - The dosing range has been changed to 0.6-1.0mg/kg for the RSI protocol.
- Intravenous Nitroglycerin.
  - Approved for use in certain patients with Congestive Heart Failure.
  - Current dosing is recommended to be 1mg IV initially and may be repeated to 1mg dosing every 5 minutes to a maximum of three doses.

**Changes to SC EMS Protocols:**

- Tranexamic Acid (TXA)
  - Approved for the Paramedic and Higher Endorsement levels based on Local Medical Director approval. The protocol and supplemental documentation can be found on the website.
- Nitrous Oxide
  - Approved for Basic or higher levels. A copy of the updated pain control protocol and supplemental documentation can be found on the website.
- Blood and Blood Components



- Approved for Paramedic or Higher Endorsement levels based on Local Medical Director approval. The protocol and supplemental documentation can be found on the website listed above.
- Pre-Hospital Pain Management
  - Lower doses of IV Pain Medications can be administered with On-Line Medical Control. The maximum dosages remain the same as indicated in SC Protocol 16.

Local EMS Medical Directors must update their current Protocols and formularies to reflect any changes listed above that they wish to incorporate.

If you update your local protocols, please email your regional Division of EMS inspector with a signed and dated copy.

If you have any questions, please contact us at:

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