

THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY, INC.



NYC REMAC

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| Advisory No. | 2010-07 | | |
| Title: | Medication Shortages/Unavailability | | |
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The Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) of New York City is responsible to develop, approve and implement prehospital treatment and transport protocols for use within the five boroughs of the City of New York. The Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) of New York City operates under the auspices of Article Thirty of the New York State Public Health Law.

The Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) of New York City has been advised that there is a temporary shortage of several medications in the forms which they are utilized on regional ambulances. This shortage is temporary in nature, and is estimated to last the end of September 2010.

While D50 in ampoules might not be available, or other medications in preparations to which we are accustomed, other preparations are available. Hospitals are having the same issue. EMS Services are advised to attempt to identify and acquire other preparations of medications used in the Protocols. In the event services are unable to obtain a suitable replacement, then the protocol, in which the medication was to be used, should be performed without the medication.

Services should notify REMAC of the absence of a particular medication so that we have a record. We would also advise services to document their attempts at obtaining other medication preparations or issues with the preparations available and their non-suitability for prehospital care.

Service Medical Directors **must** also inform the service On-Line Medical Control Facility if/when the service runs out of a medication, and which option the agency has chosen.

Current and Updated Protocols can be accessed at the Regional EMS Council website: www.nycremsco.org. For your information, the NYS DOH BEMS Advisory concerning this issue is also attached.

Owners/operators of Ambulance and ALS First Response Services providing prehospital medical treatment within the five boroughs of the City of New York are responsible to provide copies of the NYC REMAC Prehospital Treatment Protocols to their personnel, and to ensure that Service Medical Directors and EMS personnel are informed of all changes/updates to the NYC REMAC Prehospital Treatment Protocols.

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