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Title:	National Drug Shortages		
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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.

In response to increasing National Drug Shortages, the Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) of New York City is taking the following actions:

1. Advanced Life Support Ambulance and First Response agencies can continue to designate units as ALS (Paramedic) level as long as the units have sufficient medications to complete Protocol Standing Orders, with the exception of Morphine Sulfate. If medications are not available due to drug shortage, those specific Medical Control Options can be omitted, and a transport decision may be made.
2. Morphine Sulfate shall be listed as, “subject to availability based upon supply”.
3. Current substitutions are identified below:

Medication	Affected Protocols	Substitute
Amiodarone	503-A, 505-A (MCO), 505-B (MCO), 505-C, and 553	503-A, 505-C, and 553 - Lidocaine; 505-A and 505-B - Diltiazem
Morphine	528 and 529	Fentanyl

If your agency has, or anticipates a medication shortage, advise the NYC REMAC as soon as possible, by emailing mdiglio@nycremsco.org. The REMAC will continue to investigate alternate medications that may be utilized.

Current and Updated Protocols can be accessed at the Regional EMS Council website: www.nycremsco.org.

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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Chair, Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee of New York City