DATE: December 31, 2008

SUBJECT: Basic Life Support (BLS) Skill Sheets

TO: EMS Training Institutes
EMS Continuing Education Sponsors

FROM: Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
PA Department of Health
(717) 787-8740

The material contained within this document is the result of many months of work by numerous dedicated individuals serving on the Basic Life Support (BLS) Task Force of the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council. The BLS Task Force represents emergency and public safety agencies across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The BLS Skill Sheets were designed to facilitate the learning process of students registered in a Pennsylvania approved Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT-B) or Emergency First Responder (EFR) Program, conducted at a Pennsylvania approved training site by Pennsylvania certified EMS Instructors. The Skill Sheets may continue to serve as a reference guide for the trained individuals once they are certified.

The BLS Skill Sheets were developed from the Emergency Medical Technician-Basic: National Standard Curriculum (1994) and the Pennsylvania First Responder Curriculum (Revised June 2004), along with supportive, adjunctive educational materials pertinent to the aforementioned providers scope of practice. The BLS Skill Sheets, the Pennsylvania First Responder Curriculum and the Pennsylvania Prehospital Practitioner Scope of Practice are available on the Bureau of EMS Website at www.health.state.pa.us/ems.

The attached BLS Skill Sheets will be updated as research, new information, technology and general knowledge of emergency medical services evolves.
* The following items are not Emergency First Responder Skills and are not applicable to the First Responder Program.

- Lung Sounds
- Short Backboard Application
- Vest Type Short Backboard
- Helmet Removal
- Evisceration
- Patient Assisted Medications

If you have any questions, please contact me at (717) 787-8740 or at bmeateer@state.pa.us.

Attachment – BLS Skill Sheets, December 22, 2008