



RECOMMENDATION FOR CONSIDERATION

Board Meeting Date: March 15, 2017

Subject: Removal of Pediatric Length-Based Tapes for BLS EMS Vehicles

VTR#: 0317-02

Committee/Task Force: EMS for Children

Recommended Goal Recommended Policy Change Other:

Recommendation:

The Department of Health should include remove the “Pediatric length-based Drug Dosing/Equipment Sizing Tape, most current version available” equipment requirement from BLS EMS vehicles.

Rationale [Background]:

Beginning with the Broselow[®] Tape in the 1980s and several variations since, the length-based drug dosing tape has become an invaluable resource for pediatric medication administration in the emergency medical care setting. All EMS agencies at or above the IALS level can find use for a length-based drug dosing tape, including medication doses, defibrillator settings, and an estimated weight based upon height for children. However, all of the information related to drug dosing and defibrillator settings, and most other information contained on a length-based drug dosing tape, is above the scope of the BLS provider. The most benefit to the BLS provider is a reference guide with appropriate weight of the child, in kilograms, and ‘normal’ vital signs for pediatric patients, something that is not included on all length-based drug dosing tapes.

Note: This VTR is designed to be enacted in conjunction with VTR 0317-01 (Addition of Pediatric Reference Guide to BLS Protocols)

Medical Review [Concerns]:

Not applicable.

Fiscal Concerns:

BLS EMS agencies will not have to use funds to purchase new pediatric length-based tapes, thus allowing them to use funds for other equipment, education, or miscellaneous projects.

Educational Concerns:

None.

Plan of Implementation:

The EMSC Committee offers consultation to the Department in regard to the content of this Vote to Recommend (VTR) and its attached documents. The EMSC Committee specifically offers staff or member support to participate in Department deliberations regarding this recommendation in an effort to convey committee discussions.

Board Meeting Comments/Concerns:

Signed: _____ Date _____
President

For PEHSC Use Only – PA Department of Health Response

Accept: _____ Table: _____ Modify: _____ Reject: _____

Comments:

Date of Department Response: _____