**MEMORANDUM**

TO: All MA Licensed Ambulance Services and Accredited EMT Training Institutions

CC: EMCAB Members

FROM: Dr. Jonathan Burstein, OEMS Medical Director

RE: 2019.2 Statewide Treatment Protocols (STPs)

DATE: August 1, 2019

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The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services (the Department) is implementing an emergency protocol change to enhance the interventions available for the EMT-Basic in treating hypoglycemia. Currently, EMT-Basics can only give oral glucose for hypoglycemic patients, and therefore are limited in the care they can provide for unresponsive patients or those who cannot swallow.

As the “check-and-inject” epinephrine program has expanded in the last few years, more EMT-Basics have been trained in giving intramuscular (IM) injections. The new protocol added by this emergency change, 6.10, will allow Affiliate Hospital Medical Directors (AHMD) to train and authorize their services’ EMT-Basics to give intramuscular glucagon to treat hypoglycemic patients who are not able to consume oral glucose.

Note that the new protocol 6.10 is a medical director option protocol. A service may implement it as soon as its AHMD approves and all EMT-Basics are appropriately trained and equipped.

This update of the STPs, to version 2019.2, also includes a clarification of inter-facility transport (IFT) of patients with home medical devices, and contains some technical corrections to language in the cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) protocol. These changes can be implemented as soon as all EMS personnel are trained.

Thank you for your continued collaboration and efforts to effectively serve patients across the Commonwealth. If you have any questions on the 2019.2 STPs, please contact Patricia Reilly, RN, clinical coordinator, at patricia.reilly@state.ma.us, or Renee Atherton, NRP, compliance coordinator, at renee.atherton@state.ma.us.