



October 7, 2009

Dear Ambulance Providers:

Many agencies have expressed interest in assisting in large scale vaccination programs within their communities. This should be quite possible with appropriate planning. It is understood by KBEMS that these activities are not routine for your medics but are acceptable during, or to prevent, large scale public health crises which overwhelm the local health department.

I recommend the execution of a simple MOU that allows the medics to provide IM vaccinations to "their own" as well as the general public. The MOU should be between the local Health Department and the EMS agency. Several points should be clear in the MOU.

- The EMS agency is NOT responsible for the "administration" of the program; the medics merely act as agents of the Health Department in assisting with the program.
- The Health Department is responsible for all training including patient screening, drawing up and measuring vaccine, injection site and procedures, and documentation.
- The Health Department is responsible for all record keeping i.e. recipient identification, lot numbers, etc (whatever is required).
- The Health Department physician is granted (and accepts) medical control responsibility for the medics for all matters related to the vaccinations. This should be explicit and thus requires the signatures of both physicians.
- If requested, medics should be made available to assist the Health Department in its efforts to provide large scale vaccinations.

KBEMS would like to know if your agencies are entering into such an agreement. Specific protocols used by the health department do not need to be reviewed by me.

Thanks,

Timothy G. Price, MD
State Medical Advisor
Kentucky Board of EMS

300 North Main Street, Versailles, KY 40383
859.256.3565 Fax: 859.256.3128
kbems.kctcs.edu