

EMS Information Bulletin 2017-02

DATE: March 22, 2017

SUBJECT: Legal Blood Draws – Interim Guidelines

TO: Regional EMS Directors

Regional EMS Education Coordinators

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Act 142 of 2016, referred to as the Officer Brian Steven Gregg law, relating to legal blood draws, recently went into effect. The purpose of this EMS Information Bulletin is meant to serve as clarification to the Act, and its impact on EMS agencies.

EMS agencies are permitted, via the conditions of this EMS Information Bulletin, to disregard the "not for legal purposes" of line item 76 – IV Initiation/Maintenance/Fluids – Venous blood sampling, for the Paramedic column only, of the Scope of Practice for Emergency Medical Services Providers, 45 Pa.B. 5463, published Saturday, August 29, 2015, as Act 142 supersedes the Scope of Practice and permits this practice by paramedics.

The following shall constitute the approved statewide protocol for those agencies that desire to perform blood draws within the guidance of Act 142 of 2016 until a new protocol is published. At the time of publication of the new protocol, this protocol shall be considered rescinded.

Legal Blood Draw - Protocol

- 1. Any EMS agency and paramedic performing "legal blood draws" must follow all applicable state and federal laws and guidance, including but not necessarily limited to, Act 142 of 2016, "Brian Steven Gregg Law and Act 35 of 2009, Emergency Medical Services System Act and associated regulations.
- Any paramedic functioning within this role must be credentialed by the EMS agency medical director. Records of the credentialing process must be maintained by the EMS agency.

Please forward any questions to your regional EMS council.