EMS: Medication and IV Supply Requirements

I. Emergency medical service vehicles will be equipped with medication boxes and IV kits or supplies consistent with their licensure level and protocols.

II. The contents of the medication boxes are subject to inspection at any time by participating hospital pharmacy staff or by the medical control authority.

III. Medication boxes will be prepared by MCA participating hospital pharmacies prior to each patient use see **Pharmacy: Medication and IV Supply Requirements Protocol**.

- A. All medications will be obtained from an MCA participating pharmacy.
  - i. Oral glucose is the only medication that an agency may own and supply.
  - ii. Agencies must have an MCA approved process in place for manufacture recalls.

IV. IV kits may be prepared and sealed by MCA participating pharmacies or by delegated agencies per MCA approved procedure.

V. Licensed EMS personnel will assure that a proper seal is in place on medication boxes

VI. The ambulance agency and licensed EMS personnel are responsible for the security of the medications and supplies.

VII. Medication boxes and IV supplies shall be locked and secured in the EMS vehicle, except when required for patient care. Each agency will have a MCA approved procedure in place to ensure controlled access to the medication boxes and IV supplies.

VIII. Licensed EMS personnel will include the following MCA approved documentation when returning medication boxes (and IV supplies if applicable) to a secure location for pharmacy exchange.

- A. All medications used and/or wasted from the medication box (and IV supplies if applicable)
- B. Physician, PA or NP signature for controlled substances administered.
- C. Witness signature for controlled substance waste
  - i. Whenever controlled substances are used from a medication box, any unused or contaminated medication must be wasted in the presence of a witness that is a licensed healthcare professional that is authorized by the receiving facility to sign for wasted controlled substances.
- D. MCAs will determine procedures and requirements for EPCR signatures

IX. Opened syringes, needles, and any broken glass ampules will be properly disposed of and not left in the medication box. It is the responsibility of the licensed EMS personnel to clean any blood or body fluids from the inside of the medication box before it is returned to the pharmacy.

X. If EMS personnel or agency discover a discrepancy in medication box contents, they shall contact the last pharmacy which had possession of the box and mutually resolve the discrepancy.

A. Upon resolution, the agency shall submit a report to the medical control authority documenting the circumstances and the resolution. A copy of the report will also be sent to the pharmacy by the agency.

B. Discrepancies that cannot be resolved between the pharmacy and agency will immediately be forwarded to the medical control authority for investigation.