As you probably already know, the State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (SEMAC) passed a resolution in January that, after a fiscal and operational impact study, was supported by the State EMS Council (SEMSCO). The resolution requires that ALL advanced life support (Paramedic and/or EMT-Critical Care) EMS agencies must be licensed to be able to possess and administer controlled substance (CS) medications per regional protocol. Here is the "Cliff Note" version:

- The affected EMS services, must apply for and be granted the prehospital 03C controlled substance license before **May 1, 2015**.
- If an agency does not obtain the license and have the ability to provide these medications to patients, the Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) will have to remove their authorization at the ALS level.
- Any EMS agency seeking to become ALS from now forward, will have to hold a 03C license in order to be approved by their REMAC at the advanced level.
- The Regional EMS Program Agencies and DOH BEMS regional staff are committed to working with the agencies to assist in any way possible.

Based on our data, this affects approximately 265 ambulance and ALS first response services statewide. The SEMAC feels that controlled substance medications are a necessary part of prehospital care in New York State and a standard of care. While it is recognized that this will be an added responsibility for many agencies, the ability to administer CS medication to patients is necessary and proper. The Bureau of EMS and Narcotics Enforcement (BNE) will be working together to move the license issuing process along as quickly as possible, but we would ask that you encourage your EMS agencies to begin developing their plans and getting their application in process, sooner rather than later.

We are in the process of drafting a DOH EMS Policy Statement in an effort to provide the agencies with notification and more guidance. I hope it will be forthcoming in a couple of weeks.

Please let me know if you/your agencies have questions. [reply through County EMS Coordinators]

Lee

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