



Emergency Medical Services

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OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR

TO: All EMS System Providers
FROM: Brent Myers, MD MPH
Wake County Medical Director
DATE: June 27, 2006
RE: Clarifications To The Wake County Protocols

Despite diligent efforts, there are several omissions/clarifications that I need to address to the current set of Patient Care Protocols.

1. For EMTs, there is no age limit for the administration of Albuterol to pediatric patients
2. For first responders, oral glucose may be administered to patients suffering from hypoglycemia if the patient is awake enough to swallow. Care must be taken so that an airway compromise doesn't result as a result of the oral glucose administration.
3. For EMTs or First Responder departments who have elected to complete the special training module, the administration of Epi can only be done by the Epi Pen. The indication for the use of the Epi Pen is shock / respiratory failure. Patients who are this ill require the epinephrine emergently, and potential benefit outweighs the risk of side effect. Thus, for patients requiring an EpiPen for shock or respiratory failure, the contraindications listed in the "Pearls" section of the protocols do not apply. In other words, if the patient is ill enough to require an EpiPen, there is no need to contact medical control prior to its administration.

Also, note that the LifePak 500 AED pads are interchangeable with EMS monitor pads. This means there is no reason for you to remove your pads; rather, you should ask for a set of pads for restock from EMS after they arrive.

As always thank you for what you do!