December 21, 2011

In response to increasing shortages of metoprolol (Lopressor), effective 12/21/11, this interim protocol has been approved by the Medical Directions and Practice Board and may be used only during a time when metoprolol is not available.

Prior to implementation, providers must be appropriately trained and Maine EMS must be notified about the shortage and the anticipated length of time this interim protocol may be necessary.

NARROW COMPLEX TACHYCARDIA
(including Red 20)

CRITICAL CARE/PARAMEDIC

Follow the current protocols, except that where metoprolol is referenced and unavailable, replace with the following:

ADULTS - Contact OLMC for the option of: Diltiazem 5 mg – 20 mg IV over 5 minutes. Refer to OLMC for exact dosing. Titrate to effect. May repeat every 15 minutes as needed for effect

For other situations (e.g. interfacility transfer), follow appropriate medical control orders.