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CLINICAL BULLETIN			
Bulletin #	Title		Date Issued
#2023-05-02-01	Interim Suspension of Use of Maine EMS K9 Protocols		May 02, 2023
Superseded	Released By:	Source:	Pages
N/A	Maine EMS	MDPB	1
Approved By:	J. Sam Hurley, MPH, EMPS, NRP Maine EMS Director	Matthew Sholl, MD, MPH State Medical Director	

The MDPB has been made aware that the current EMS K9 protocols may conflict with certain provisions in the Maine Veterinary Practice Act, which governs the practice of veterinary medicine in Maine. Maine EMS, the MDPB, and the Maine EMS Assistant Attorney General, are working with the Board of Veterinary Medicine to resolve this issue.

In the interim, the MDPB is **suspending the use of the K9 protocols**. Please recall, and as noted in the protocol annex (OD Green 1), that the use of these protocols requires all of the following:

- Specialized education
- An MOU between the EMS Agency and the service deploying the operational K9
- A relationship with a receiving veterinary clinic/hospital
- Documentation of training with the K9 service and
- Final approval by the MDPB

The MDPB does not expect suspension of these protocols to have significant operational impact as no agency or clinician has sought final approval from the MDPB.

Once resolved, the MDPB will send additional Clinical Bulletins acknowledging the rectification of this issue. For any questions, please contact Maine EMS.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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