



Research Proposal: Early Antibiotic Use in Prehospital Open Fractures: An Evaluation of Regional Adherence to Statewide Protocol Implementation

Principal Investigator: Michael Bohanske, MD

Co-Investigators: Jack Lewis, DO; Joseph Minichiello, MD; Eric Shurtleff, DO; Matthew Camuso, MD

Study Design: Retrospective chart review of patients discharged with a diagnosis of open fracture from Maine Medical Center Portland between 12/1/2021-12/1/2025.

Data sources:

Prehospital: Maine EMS & Fire Incident Reporting System

Hospital: Epic

Data security: Study investigators will extract data elements into a secure data repository platform, REDCap, which will be accessible to study team members via unique login and password. Records in MMC Epic HER will be linked to the corresponding record in MEFIRS dataset in order to match EMS transport data to in-hospital data. MRN and date of transport/date of discharge will be used to link records. A master list with a unique case ID and corresponding MRN and date will be kept separate from all other study data and accessible only by study personnel using unique login and password. All study datasets will be shared only via secure file share in REDCap. The master list will be permanently deleted once the final de-identified dataset is constructed, or as soon as possible.

MaineHealth Institutional Review Board (IRB): Determined NOT human research

Department of Emergency Medicine, Division of EMS
Maine Medical Center Portland

22 Bramhall Street, Portland, ME 04102 • 207-662-7010 • Fax: 207-662-7025

mainehealth.org

NOT HUMAN RESEARCH DETERMINATION

May 14, 2026

Michael Bohanske
22 Bramhall St

Portland, ME 04102

michael.bohanske@mainehealth.org

Dear Michael Bohanske:

On 5/14/2026, the IRB reviewed the following protocol:

Protocol Information	Submission Details
Type of Review:	Initial Study
Title:	Early Antibiotic Use in Prehospital Open Fractures: An Evaluation of Regional Adherence to Statewide Protocol Implementation
Investigator:	Michael Bohanske
IRB ID:	STUDY00000431
Funding:	None
Grant ID:	None
IND, IDE or HDE:	None
Documents Reviewed:	• Research Determination - Antibiotic Use in Open Fractures - 13MAY2026.docx, Category: IRB Protocol;

The IRB determined that the proposed activity is not research involving human subjects as defined by DHHS and FDA regulations.

IRB review and approval by this organization is not required. This determination applies only to the activities described in the IRB submission and does not apply should any changes be made. If changes are made and there are questions about whether these activities are research involving human subjects, please submit a new request to the IRB for a determination.

If you have any questions, please contact the Research Compliance Office at hrppiRB@mainehealth.org. Please include your project title and IRB number in all correspondence with this committee.

In conducting this protocol, you are required to follow all institutional and Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) reporting requirements. Reporting requirements may be found in the MaineHealth HRPP/IRB SOPs.

The MaineHealth IRB welcomes any information that would support our efforts to assure the continuous quality and compliance of our program. You may submit comments *anonymously* (your login information will not be collected unless you provide it). Please [provide feedback here](#).

