

Maine EMS Medivax Program

Background

There are many models of EMS delivered vaccination programs, both for influenza and pediatric vaccination. These programs have been validated as safe, effective, and efficient delivery models. Although it is debatable whether such programs can be generalized to bioterrorism and pandemic preparedness, having EMS providers vaccinate is generally recognized as a reasonable expanded scope of service model.

Objective

To develop a protocol and process to allow Basic EMTs to administer intranasal flu vaccine (effective 10/21/09) and ALS EMS providers already permitted to perform IN, IM or subcutaneous injections to immunize other Public Safety providers and the general public as part of a physician-prescribed event¹.

Requirements

Maine EMS (MEMS) licensed Basic EMT, EMT-Intermediate, EMT-Critical Care, and EMT-Paramedic may administer an influenza vaccination under the following conditions:

- 1) The MEMS licensed EMT, EMT-Intermediate, EMT-Critical Care, or EMT-Paramedic has completed a MEMS Medivax program. (referred to as the “administering provider”). The program and instructor must be approved by the service Medical Director.
- 2) Basic EMTs who have completed the Maine EMS MediVax program are allowed to perform intranasal vaccine with the requirement that an ALS resource or equivalent (nurse, physician, or NP/PA) with the resources to care for adverse effects (including allergic reactions) is available on scene. A basic service cannot host a vaccine clinic individually but Basic EMTs can be used under the auspices of a larger physician proscribed event to act as a resource for administering IN vaccine.
- 3) The administering provider only administers vaccine during a physician-prescribed event.
- 4) The sponsoring organization has a Medical Director.
- 5) The sponsoring organization ensures that ALS medications and supplies are available during the vaccine administration.

¹ Physician-Prescribed Event: This is an immunization clinic sponsored by an organization and authorized by a licensed physician. The sponsoring organization is responsible for processing all paperwork and maintaining all records for the required time periods.

Protocol

Basic EMT

- 1) Complete vaccine administration record (VAR) and have the recipient sign it, or other similar workflow which meets regulatory standards.
- 2) Distribute a current season Vaccine Information Statement (VIS), or work with a team who is distributing information in order to comply with informed consent.
- 3) Perform the vaccination via intranasal in alignment with the drug package insert or the instructions of the Medical Director.

Intermediate / Paramedic

- 1) Complete vaccine administration record (VAR) and have the recipient sign it, or other similar workflow which meets regulatory standards.
- 2) Distribute a current season Vaccine Information Statement (VIS), or work with a team who is distributing information in order to comply with informed consent.
- 3) Perform the vaccination via IM injection, subcutaneous injection, intranasal or other modality within their scope of practice which is in alignment with the drug package insert or the instructions of the Medical Director.

Education

The appropriate CDC Vaccination Training Program with the Maine EMS Supplemental material as approved by the MEMS will be used to train providers.

Operations

- 1) Vaccination records will be maintained by the sponsoring organization for 7 years.
- 2) Sponsoring Organizations will provide vaccinated individuals copies of their VARs on request.
- 3) All VARs will be reviewed by the sponsoring organization Medical Director or designee as per organization policy.

Approved by Medical Directions & Practice Board 8/24/09

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