**16 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**163 BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (MAINE EMS)**

**CHAPTER 18: QUALITY ASSURANCE AND IMPROVEMENT**

1. **Definitions**
2. *Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Quality Assurance Committee* means a quality assurance committee approved by the Board or Maine EMS pursuant to 32 M.R.S. §92-A, including but not limited to service-level quality assurance committees.
3. *Maine EMS Quality Assurance and Improvement Committee* mean the standing committee established by the Board pursuant to 32 M.R.S. §88(2)(J).
4. *Quality Improvement Initiative* means review and assessment of Maine EMS system data by Maine-EMS-approved quality assurance committees for the purpose of improving patient care.
5. *Quality Improvement Marker* means a measurable standard within a Maine EMS protocol established by an emergency medical services quality assurance committee.
6. **Maine EMS Quality Assurance and Improvement Committee**

1. The Maine EMS Quality Assurance and Improvement Committee is authorized by the Board to perform EMS system quality assurance and improvement, including, but not limited to:
2. Creating statewide quality improvement markers;
3. Conducting Quality Improvement Initiatives, as approved by the Board;
4. Receiving and interpreting results of quality marker reports;
5. Responding, in concert with regional medical directors and regional coordinators, to requests for assistance regarding local services’ sub regional quality assurance and improvement plans;
6. Publishing and updating the Maine EMS Quality Assurance and Improvement Manual;
7. Leading or participating in state-based quality management education; and,
8. Reviewing quality assurance and improvement management of Board-approved pilot projects when requested by the Board, the Medical Direction and Practices Board or the pilot project participant(s).
9. **Emergency Medical Services Quality Assurance Committees**
10. A Board or Maine EMS -approved emergency medical services quality assurance committee must participate in EMS quality assurance activities, including, but not limited to:
11. Gathering and submitting data as part of a Maine EMS Quality Assurance and Improvement Committee Quality Improvement Initiative; and,
12. Conducting a program of quality assurance and improvement in accordance with 32 M.R.S.A Chapter 2-B, and these Rules.
13. **Emergency Medical Services Persons and EMS Services**

Licensed emergency medical services personnel and licensed EMS services shall participate in Maine EMS quality assurance activities in accordance with 32 M.R.S.A Chapter 2-B and these Rules.

1. **Emergency Medical Dispatchers and Emergency Medical Dispatch Centers**

Emergency Medical Dispatchers and Emergency Medical Dispatch Centers shall participate in Maine EMS quality assurance activities in accordance with 32 M.R.S.A Chapter 2-B and these Rules.

AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §§ 84(1), 88(2)(J) & 92-A(1).

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