



# Mary Washington Healthcare

**To:** EMS Agencies  
**From:** Tina Skinner, EMS Coordinator  
**Date:** October 11, 2016  
**Subject:** **Current EMS Medication Shortages**

These shortages are in effect for all MWHC facilities based on our ability to order under national drug shortages, and backorders by the manufacturers under the current contracts we hold. Please distribute the updated list below to your ALS providers. Your providers may see these drugs as previously distributed in hospital medication boxes currently in the field or the Med Acudose until that stock is depleted or expired.

Medication Shortage	Approved Alternative Provided	Effective Date
Dextrose 25% 10ml Abbojects	Dextrose 50% and Dextrose 10% are not affected. Consider diluting Dextrose 50% as approved by your Medical Director for Dextrose 25% administration.	10/1/2016

Alerts on other medications and devices reported:

Medication Change / Needle Issue	Approved Alternative Provided	Effective Date
Sterile Water Bullets removed from Narcotic Kits	Regional Pharmacy Committee approved this change. EMS providers may use normal saline from your supply to reconstitute Vecuronium when needed.	10/7/2016
Sodium Bicarb	2 will now be stocked in the Pharmacy issued med boxes. With previous national shortage went down to 1 in each box. Now available for stocking to meet current protocols.	10/7/2016
BD 21g x 1.5" Needles	<b>Lot 6022838 (Expiration 1/31/21)</b> Reported to EMS 9/30/2016  These needles may be in a pharmacy issued med box. If found please return directly to the Pharmacy. <b>Advise not to use the 21g needle in the med boxes</b> as we move through normal exchanges and checking of boxes. BD needles are available to EMS in the Par Excellence Supply Machine.	9/29/2016

Should you have any questions regarding MWHC available EMS medications do not hesitate to contact me at 540-741-1192 or by email at [Christina.Skinner@mwhc.com](mailto:Christina.Skinner@mwhc.com).