

Virginia Regional EMS Medication Kit Transition Workgroup

May 13, 2024

Agend

Introductions/Workgroup Additions

- Audio of last meeting available in MST Meeting Files for April 8, 2024
- Final DEA Ruling
- May 2, 2024, BOP Meeting
- Tool Teams – Reports
- Regional Council Transition Status Reports
- Open Forum
- Next Steps

New and Pending Information

- Final DEA Ruling

May 2, 2024, BOP Meeting

- In preparation, BOP staff solicited additional comments from stakeholders on multiple drafts of the Proposed Amendments for EMS Related Regulations
- The BOP discussed EMS comments and reviewed the final EMS informed draft line-by-line for over 4 hours
- BOP unanimously passed their reworked Amendments as Emergency Regulations and Initiated a Notice of Regulatory Action
- Regulations must undergo administrative Review Process – approx. 10 weeks
- Emergency regulations are temporary and must be replaced by permanent regulations

May 2, 2024, BOP Meeting

- BOP repealed their previous Guidance Document 110-4, Virginia Board of Pharmacy Emergency Medical Services Drug Kits, as some of the guidance is now inconsistent with new language adopted by the Board.
- BOP staff is developing a new Policy Document to assist with educating EMS stakeholders on the pending emergency regulations

May 2, 2024, BOP Meeting

Some of the changes approved

- Allow EMS agencies within a jurisdiction to be served by a single EMS Agency with a CSR/DEA license.
- Allow EMS agencies within a region to be served by the Regional Council with a single CSR license.
- Allows for continuation of Hospital 1:1 Exchange of Schedule 6 medications
- Allow anyone with Virginia EMS certification at any level authorized to administer Medications to have access to medications under a supervising authority for the purposes of medication supply/resupply management.

May 2, 2024, BOP Meeting

Some of the changes approved

- Allows medications and controlled substances to be transported in vehicles owned by EMS agencies, Regional Councils or Jurisdictions and used by EMS agencies and Regional Councils for the purpose of medical supply/resupply management.
- Removed the requirement for alarm systems for the temporary storage of medication kits in an EMS Agency or designated location when the vehicle they are stored on must be removed from service for repair or maintenance and when only Schedule 6 medications are stored in the building.
- Only requires medications kits containing Schedule 2-5 medications to be sealed

May 2, 2024, BOP Meeting

Some of the changes approved

- Allows use of automated dispensing devices and RFID
- Conforms BOP regulations to the expected minimum regulations required by FDA and DEA for EMS.
- Other changes reconciling differences in language and clarifying meanings

Tool Team Reports

CSRC and DEA Licensure Tool Team – Cindy Williams (Chair)

Purpose: to develop detailed step-by-step instruction for how to obtain CSRC and DEA EMS Agency Licensure with an estimated timeline, and training on how to prepare for inspection, understanding of requirements for purchasing and management of medications, record keeping, etc.

Melissa Doak - Battalion Chief, York County Fire and Life Safety, VFCA

Brian Frankel – Deputy Chief Operations, Stafford County Fire and Rescue, VFCA

Beth O'Halloran - Deputy Executive Director, VA Board of Pharmacy

Caroline Juran - Executive Director, VA Board of Pharmacy

Ron Passmore - Division Director, Regulation and Compliance Enforcement, OEMS

Travis Veach - EMS Field Coordinator - Operations, PEMS Council, Reg Council

Cynthia Williams - VP Chief Pharmacy Officer, Riverside Health System, VSHSP

Tool Team Reports

Policies and Procedures Tool Team – Ryan Ashe (Chair)

Purpose: to develop best practice model templates for small and large EMS agencies for the management of medications, to include purchasing, storage and inventory management, dispensing, operational resupply, security and accountability, record keeping, diversions and disposal.

Ryan Ashe – Fire Chief, James City County Fire Department, VFCA

Bryan Kimberlin – Lead Field Coordinator, SW Virginia EMS Council, Reg Council

Jeffrey Meyer – EMS Division Chief, Virginia Beach EMS – VAGEMSA

Wayne Perry - Executive Director, Rappahannock EMS Council, Reg Council

Amy Shultz - Director of Pharmacy, Chesapeake Regional Healthcare – VSHSP

Natalie Nguyen - Medication Safety Mgr. Pharmacy Services, VCU HS - VSHSP

Tool Team Reports

Purchasing Tool Team – Brian Frankel (Chair)

Purpose: to develop multiple options that will allow EMS Agencies in Virginia to benefit from larger contract pricing when purchasing medications, medication storage/dispensing/inventory hardware and software, and disposal services.

Brian Frankel - Deputy Chief, Operations, Stafford County Fire and Rescue, VFCA

Cynthia Williams - VP Chief Pharmacy Officer, Riverside Health System, VSHSP

Gill Abernathy - Chair, EMS Pharm Committee, Northern VA EMS Council, Reg Council

Andrew Slater - Deputy Executive Director, Northern Virginia Emerg Response System

Tool Team Reports

Financial Assistance Tool Team – Gregory Woods (Chair)

Purpose: to develop some funding options to assist EMS agencies with initial transition costs.

Ryan Ashe - Fire Chief, James City County Fire Department, VFCA

Michael Berg - Director, EMS Systems Funding, OEMS

Catherine Ford - Lobbyist, Commonwealth Strategy Group - VSHSP

Daniel Linkins - Executive Director, Central Shenandoah EMS Council, Reg Council

Brad McDaniel - Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Carilion Clinic - VSHSP

Amy Shultz - Director of Pharmacy, Chesapeake Regional Healthcare – VSHSP

Gregory Woods - Executive Director, Southwest Virginia EMS Council, Reg Council

Tool Team Products

- Tool Team products will be posted on Regional EMS Council websites and the OEMS website for use by EMS Agencies and Regional EMS Councils
- Send completed products to the “Completed Tools” folder located in the Tool Team’s files Folder in MS Teams for delivery to the Regional Councils and OEMS
- Include POCs and Instructions/guidance for implementation (if required)
- Notify Michael Player, mplayer@vaems.org

Regional Council Transition Status Reports

Blue Ridge EMS Council

Central Shenandoah EMS Council

Lord Fairfax EMS Council

Northern Virginia EMS Council

Old Dominion EMS Alliance

Peninsulas EMS Council

Rappahannock EMS Council

Southwest Virginia EMS Council

Tidewater EMS Council

Thomas Jefferson EMS Council

Western Virginia EMS Council

Open Forum

Next Steps

Next Meeting – June 10, 2024, at 1 pm

Workgroup Phase 2 – Supporting transition

- Acting as SMEs for EMS Agencies and Regional Councils implementing tools
- Continuing to develop additional tools
- Answering questions and developing a common Q&A document
- Highlighting examples of successful transition strategies
- Other ideas