



CENTRAL NEW YORK EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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To: CNYEMS Providers

From: Daniel J. Olsson, DO
Medical Director

Re: Blood Draws by AEMT(s) Pursuant to NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law

Date: December 6, 2005

It has come to the attention of CNYEMS Program Staff that AEMT(s) from agencies operating within the Central New York Region have equipment, as well as policy and procedure allowing for withdrawal of blood from an individual for the sole purpose of determining alcoholic or drug content at the request of law enforcement.

While New York State Department of Health EMS Bureau Policy 01-03 allowing this practice, pursuant to New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 1194(4) exists, it was adopted as a regional option, and this region has opted not to authorize AEMT's to draw blood from an individual for the sole purpose of determining alcoholic or drug content at the request of law enforcement.

If an AEMT suspects that the patient is presenting with clinical indication of altered mental status, the patient shall be treated and transported to the appropriate hospital, as per CNYEMS ALS Protocol.

Thank you.

Daniel J. Olsson, DO
Regional Medical Director
CNYEMS Program