



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Bureau for Public Health
Office of Emergency Medical Services

Jeffrey H. Coben, MD
Interim Cabinet Secretary

Matthew Q. Christiansen, MD, MPH
Commissioner & State Health Officer

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3-07-2023

TO: All EMS Providers

FROM: Jonathan Newman, MD State medical Director

RE: Protocol Addendum

Effective: 3-7-2023 Until Further Notice

Today, Tuesday March 7, 2023, there has been an addendum made to the following protocols due to medication shortages. The protocols effected are 4302, 4413, 5302, 5413, and 6302.

Albuterol has been reported in short supply.

Levalbuterol (Xopenex) and Albuterol have similar effects.

Levalbuterol generics cost similar to Albuterol.

Levalbuterol is available in metered aerosol and nebulizer solutions.

They both are used for asthma and COPD.

Dosages for 6 years old and older, use 0.63 mg (90 mcg of levalbuterol free base) using 0.63 mg / 3 ml nebulizer solution. Contact Medcom Physician for repeated dosing.

For patients who are less than 6 years old contact Medcom Command Physician for dose.

If agencies have albuterol, they will continue to follow the current protocols as written in the 2022 and 2023 protocols.

This has been issued and authorized by Jonathan Newman, MD, State Medical Director, and is effective as of 12:00pm today 3-7-2023. Please make sure that your providers are aware of this addendum procedure and dosages if you have to use the Xopenex.