DATE: June 14, 2017

TO: All Fresno/Kings/Madera/Tulare ALS EMS Providers, Hospitals and Interested Parties

FROM: Daniel J. Lynch, EMS Director

SUBJECT: Medication Shortages

The EMS Agency has been made aware of several medication shortages involving medications that are routinely utilized in our EMS region. It is our understanding that all preload medications could be impacted, as well as a few others.

We are recommending that all ALS provider agencies work closely with your vendors in regard to receiving the needed supplies of these medications, and suggest that you explore possible alternatives to preloads. An example of this would be the use of single dose vials or ampules diluted with the appropriate amount of saline.

The use of expired medications will be considered by the EMS Agency on a case-by-case basis, only as a last resort in the event that all other options have been exhausted.

We appreciate the provider agencies contacting us in regard to these concerns and issues and ask that you continue to inform us as we progress through the next few months. Please contact Dale Dotson with any questions or concerns at (559) 600-3387.

DJL:rb