



Date: July 17, 2017

DPH Numbered Memo 17-04

July 2017

To: All EMS Healthcare Professionals

From: Wisconsin Emergency Medical Services Section



Expiration Date Allowances for Current Drug Shortages

The purpose of this memo is to provide guidance and information about the current shortage for injectable drugs used by emergency medical services (EMS). Recently, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) provided guidance on certain drugs that can be used beyond the manufacturer's labeled expiration date. At this time, the drugs listed below can be used during the shortage or while available. Per the FDA, to ensure patient safety, these products should have been—and should continue to be—stored as per labeled conditions.

<https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/DrugShortages/ucm563360.htm>

The medications included in this expiration date waiver include the following drugs manufactured by Hospira Inc, a Pfizer company:

- Epinephrine Injection, USP 0.1 mg/mL; 10 mL ABBOJECT syringe (NDC 0409-4921-34)
- Dextrose 50% Injection, USP, 50 mL ABBOJECT Syringe (NDC 0409-4902-34)
- Atropine Sulfate Injection, USP 0.1 mg/mL; 10 mL ABBOJECT syringe (NDC 0409-4911-34)
- Atropine Sulfate Injection, USP 0.1 mg/mL; 5 mL ABBOJECT syringe (NDC 0409-4910-34)

We recommend you work with your medical director to determine the most appropriate response to these drug shortages. In addition, be advised that the Department of Health Services and Department of Transportation (DOT) discussed these shortages and the DOT ambulance inspector will not cite for these identified expired medications. However, all other expired medication dates will be subject to DOT enforcement action. Finally, EMS services will not be required to submit drug shortage protocols but will need to follow FDA recommendations.

In summary, EMS services are allowed to follow the FDA recommendations and to work with their medical directors to ensure patient safety is maintained during these shortages. This memo will be in effect until December 31, 2017.

Please contact the EMS Office at 608-266-1568 or by email dhsemssmail@dhs.wisconsin.gov if you have any questions.