



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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TO: All MA ALS Licensed Ambulance Services
All MA Accredited Training Institutions

CC: EMCAB Members

FROM: Deborah Allwes, BS, BSN, MPH, Director
Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality

DeA

DATE: September 29, 2014

RE: Emergency modification to Haloperidol administration under Protocol 2.4 Behavioral Emergencies

Effective immediately, under the Statewide Treatment Protocols v.12.03, in Protocol 2.4 Behavioral Emergencies, Adult and Pediatric, the standing order authorization for paramedics to administer Haloperidol (Haldol) is **by IM route only**. The Department has been alerted that this medication is not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for administration by IV route, and therefore that route of administration is not to be used at this time. See FDA advisory specifically on this topic:

<http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/PostmarketDrugSafetyInformationforPatientsandProviders/DrugSafetyInformationforHealthcareProfessionals/ucm085203.htm>

It is important that all paramedic-level ambulance services and their EMTs be aware that in accordance with FDA approval and manufacturer's instructions, Haloperidol is to be administered by IM route only.

If you have any questions, please contact Patricia Reilly, Clinical Coordinator, at patricia.reilly@state.ma.us or at 617-753-7318.