



EMS Information Bulletin- #25

DATE: December 13, 2004

SUBJECT: Surge Response Services Update

TO: Regional EMS Medical Directors
Regional Counter Terrorism Task Force Leaders
Ambulance Services

FROM: Emergency Medical Services Office
PA Department of Health
(717) 787-8740

As we move forward into 2005 with the Surge Response Service Program, the following changes have been made to improve ambulance service preparedness for response to a pandemic or catastrophic casualty event.

Training

Emergency Management Institute's IS-700 National Incident Management System is recommended training along with an Incident Command Course that includes a certificate of completion. The NIMS course can be found at www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb. All Incident Command courses must include the National Incident Management System component.

Vaccinations

Influenza Vaccination is waived for 2004 if the vaccine is not available to the service. Pneumococcal Vaccination is not needed for persons under 65 and the EMS Office is no longer requiring this vaccination for the Surge Response Services.

Uniform Guideline

Blue or black shirt displaying the level of certification of the team member and blue or black work pants is preferred with the proper personal protective equipment. This guideline is subject to change in the future.

Please contact Beth McAteer, bmcateer@state.pa.us, with any questions or concerns.