



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Office of Emergency Medical Services
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MEMORANDUM

TO: All MA Licensed Ambulance Services and MA Accredited EMT Training Institutions
CC: EMCAB Members
FROM: Dr. Jonathan Burstein, State Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Medical Director
DATE: December 12, 2019
RE: Emergency Release of Protocol 2.20 Home Hemodialysis Emergency Disconnect

Emergency Update to Statewide Treatment Protocols, Protocol 2.20 Home Hemodialysis Emergency Disconnect

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) is releasing this protocol to provide guidance to the EMS provider for emergency management of a patient using a home dialysis machine. The most important items to remember are to

1. Stop the machine,
 2. Clamp the arterial and venous lines (usually leaving them IN the patient's shunt),
 3. Disconnect the machine from the patient, and
 4. Leave the machine at the patient's home.
 5. During this process, of course, provide care for the patient's complaint
- New Protocol 2.20

Please share this with your affiliate hospital medical directors. If you have any questions, please contact Patricia Reilly, at patricia.reilly@state.ma.us, or Renee Atherton, at renee.atherton@state.ma.us.