



C. Earl Hunter, Commissioner

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment.

MEMORANDUM

To: All South Carolina Licensed EMS Agencies
From: Jennifer L. Paddock, Director
Date: November 10, 2011

RE: Capnography mandate

It has come to the attention of the Department that there are questions regarding the capnography mandate, specifically, when capnography should be utilized, who is required to have it, when will it be enforced, and what is actually required.

1. Capnography shall be utilized on all oral or nasally intubated patients being transported by EMS. This means interfacility transportation of an intubated patient must be placed on capnography as well.
2. Capnography will be required for any agency performing intubation and those agencies that transport intubated patients interfacility. Please note that an agency may choose to carry only alternate airways (LMA ϕ s, King, or Combitube) and thus not be required to have capnography. Intubation is a Medical Control option at all service levels and is not a requirement for ALS licensure. Furthermore, if intubation is only carried on a QRV or a percentage of your fleet then you will only need monitoring capabilities on those units.
3. Due to budget restraints and miscommunication, The Department will begin enforcement on January 1, 2012.
4. The requirement remains the same as stated in the September 2, 2010 memo. Capnography must be printable and waveform in nature. ð