DATE: March 21, 2014

TO: ORANGE COUNTY ALS PROVIDER AGENCIES
   ORANGE COUNTY EMS BASE HOSPITALS
   BASE HOSPITAL MEDICAL DIRECTORS

FROM: SAM J. STRATTON, MD, MPH
      ORANGE COUNTY EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: USE OF EXPIRED DOPAMINE BY EMS UNITS

There is an on-going national shortage of dopamine which has affected availability of the drug for use by local EMS Advanced Life Support units. This letter is documentation of authorization for the use by Orange County Advanced Life Support providers of expired dopamine solutions when non-expired dopamine is not available for the next thirty (30) days or until replacement stock becomes available.

When using extended expiration dopamine please use the most recently expired medication units first, saving those that are most expired for later use.

When necessary to use expired dopamine, the use of the expired dopamine and expiration date must be noted in the Narrative section of the e-PCR so that OCEMS can make appropriate notifications.

CC: OCEMS Program Administrator
    OCEMS ALS Coordinator
    OCEMS QI/PI Coordinator

SJS #1984