



Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency

Serving San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono Counties

Virginia Hastings, Executive Director

Reza Vaezazizi, M.D., Medical Director

DATE: June 24, 2010

TO: ALS Providers

FROM: Reza Vaezazizi, MD
ICEMA Medical Director

Virginia Hastings
ICEMA Executive Director

SUBJECT: SHORTAGE OF MORPHINE 10MG IN AMPULES

ALS providers may experience some difficulty obtaining 10mg ampules of Morphine Sulfate over the next several weeks. After researching and verifying with distributors, this issue appears to be a manufacturing backorder related to the ampules and not the medication itself.

Currently, ICEMA Drug and Equipment list specifies that the ALS units may carry Morphine Sulfate in ampules of 10mg or 15mg. Baxter Pharmaceuticals has indicated that they have a much better supply of 8mg ampules. Therefore, for the duration of this shortage, providers may purchase and stock Morphine Sulfate in ampules of 8mg, 10mg, or 15mg. Please check with your pharmaceutical distributor to determine if your agency will be impacted by this temporary shortage.

ICEMA will continue to monitor this situation and will provide additional information as necessary. We will review and update the Drug and Equipment list, as necessary, if this shortage continues beyond the anticipated next 4 - 8 weeks.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sherri Shimshy at (909) 388-5816 or at SShimshy@cao.sbcounty.gov.

RV/VH/sas

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