



March 18, 2020

**REGIONAL DIRECTIVE**

**TO: ALL WVEMS REGION EMS PROVIDERS AND AGENCIES**  
**FROM: WVEMS Regional Medical Direction Committee**  
**THROUGH: Charles J. Lane MD, WVEMS Regional Medical Director**  
**RE: Drug Box Mitigation of Contamination and Decon Procedures**

In cooperation with the hospital pharmacies and the WVEMS Regional Medical Direction Committee, during this time frame of concern, the policy for drug box use and exchange is as follows:

EMS providers opening a drug box should keep the box clear of patient contact as much as possible without disrupting patient care, for example by positioning it behind the head of the stretcher, in the drug box compartment, at the far end of the bench seat, etc.

After the call is completed, and prior to exchanging the box at the facility, EMS providers are required to decon the box with Cavi wipes, or similar approved (COVID-19) sanitizing cleaning wipes. **This applies to ALL drug box exchanges, not just those with possible infectious disease exposure.**

The ED and pharmacies are aware of this policy, and will accept the box for exchange as usual.

If your call has included an aerosolized treatment, CPAP usage or cardiac arrest where multiple drugs in the box have been handled, please wipe the box down, place in biohazard bag and inform hospital/pharmacy that the box should be temporarily pulled from rotation, until the suggested 3 day wait period.

As with all recommendations at this time, policy and procedure is apt to change and you will be updated.

Thank you for your attention. As always, feel free to contact the WVEMS office with any questions. (540) 562-3482

Thank you,  
Charles J. Lane, MD  
Regional Medical Director  
Western Virginia EMS Council