

City of Virginia Beach Department of EMS Policy

Vaccination Policy



Issue Date: 09/21/10

Revised Date: 11/5/20

Section: Medical Direction

1. Purpose

This policy is designed to provide for the authorization of designated City of Virginia Beach Department of Emergency Medical Services (VBEMS) providers to administer vaccinations for the public health and safety; to enhance Department services and to identify EMS providers who have been delegated operational authority by the EMS Chief and City's Operational Medical Director.

2. Applicability

This policy applies to all members of VBEMS that have received explicit permission to administer vaccines in accordance with the *Code of Virginia* and associated policies and procedures.

3. Policy Statement

It shall be the policy of VBEMS to establish strict procedures for the administration of vaccines by specifically trained and sanctioned ALS providers at the Intermediate and Paramedic certification levels.

This policy is not intended to restrict Department Registered Nurses from approved areas in reference to the Nursing Practice Act or EMS providers that could be authorized to administer vaccines in the event of a declared emergency by the Governor under the direction and authorization of the Commissioner of Health or those authorized through the Virginia Department of Health/Virginia Beach Department for Public Health for preventive vaccinations under their authority.

4. Policy

4.1. Personnel and Responsibilities

- 4.1.1. The Operational Medical Director serves as the "prescriber" as identified in the *Code of Virginia*, and as the supervising physician for the EMS providers administering vaccines and the vaccination program.

- 4.1.2. The Program Manager will be a Division Chief appointed for the management of the program and listed as the “Administrator” for the Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS) program.
- 4.1.3. The Vaccination Coordinator shall ensure compliance of the vaccination program with mandated registration, inventory, documentation, reporting and training.
 - 4.1.3.1. The Coordinator shall hold a valid, unrestricted Virginia Department of Health Registered Nurse or EMS ALS (Intermediate or Paramedic) license or certification.
- 4.1.4. Vaccinators will be EMS ALS (Intermediate or Paramedic) providers participating in the program and must hold a valid, unrestricted Virginia certification as an Intermediate or Paramedic.
- 4.1.5. Vaccinators must also:
 - 4.1.5.1. Be released as an unrestricted ALS AIC in the VBEMS system.
 - 4.1.5.2. Attend training and pass practical and written examinations.
 - 4.1.5.3. Be specifically and individually approved by the OMD as a vaccinator.
 - 4.1.5.4. Strictly follow protocols approved by the OMD for vaccine administration.
 - 4.1.5.5. Must attend retraining as required to maintain their approval to function in this program.
- 4.2. The OMD will approve each provider that will administer vaccines.
- 4.3. Each provider administering vaccines will receive appropriate training in the handling of the vaccine, screening and provision of information and informed consent to vaccine recipients; specific administration protocols for each vaccine administered; observation of vaccine recipients; and management of complications of vaccine administration (including severe allergic reaction) and the maintenance of appropriate records regarding vaccine administration.
- 4.4. A written record will be maintained by the vaccination coordinator of those providers approved and trained to administer vaccine.
- 4.5. Vaccine record keeping shall conform to guidelines of the VIIS and the vaccination program shall remain registered with the VIIS.
 - 4.5.1. A data entry clerk will enter information from prescribed forms into the VIIS program.
- 4.6. Adverse reactions to vaccine administration shall be managed within existing EMS protocols.
- 4.7. Adverse reactions to vaccine administration will be identified and reported through the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) by the vaccination coordinator.

This policy shall become effective upon the approval of the Chief of Emergency Medical Services.



12/17/2020

EMS Chief

Date Signed

This policy shall become effective upon the approval of the Operational Medical Director.



12/17/2020

Operational Medical Director

Date Signed

Policy Change Log		
Created:	09/21/10	Created on this date
Revised:	01/25/17	Reviewed/Revised
Revised:	11/05/20	Change log started. Entered into new format with updates.