

**RULES
OF
THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF HEALTH LICENSURE AND REGULATION
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

**CHAPTER 1200-12-02
DISASTERS, EMERGENCIES AND MASS CASUALTY EVENTS**

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1200-12-02-.01 INTRODUCTION.

- (1) During the response to emergency situations such as those precipitated by a terrorist event, emergency responders or persons may encounter patients or suffer self-exposure to toxic chemical agents requiring the immediate administration of antidotes or medications to preserve and sustain life and vital functions. Upon the exposure to a significant risk, this rule authorizes emergency treatment by use of autoinjection or intramuscular injection of such antidotes or medications as shall be approved by the Board or the State Medical Officer.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-203, 4-5-204, 68-140-503, 68-140-504, 68-140-509, and 68-140-510.

Administrative History: Original rule filed January 4, 2005; effective March 20, 2005.

1200-12-02-.02 DEFINITIONS. Within the meaning of this rule:

- (1) "Emergency responder" – Emergency responder means emergency medical technicians, paramedics, fire fighters, emergency medical first response workers, law enforcement and other public safety officials or volunteers making an authorized response or rendering emergency care at the scene of an emergency.
- (2) "Exposure" – Exposure means the presence of an injurious agent in such circumstances that life threatening symptoms may reasonably be anticipated, and that such situations impose an immediate threat to life.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-203, 4-5-204, 68-140-503, 68-140-504, 68-140-509, and 68-140-510.

Administrative History: Original rule filed January 4, 2005; effective March 20, 2005.

1200-12-02-.03 PROCEDURES.

- (1) EMS personnel or emergency responders may utilize or administer the antidotes or medications upon the availability of antidote kits or means to administer antidotes or other medications approved for intramuscular injection or autoinjection by the Board or the Commissioner of Health.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-203, 4-5-204, 68-140-503, 68-140-504, 68-140-509, and 68-140-510.

Administrative History: Original rule filed January 4, 2005; effective March 20, 2005.

1200-12-02-.04 REPORTS.

- (1) Upon the administration of such antidotes or medication by autoinjection or intramuscular injection during an emergency situation, the time and use of such antidotes or medications shall be reported to the appropriate medical personnel assuming care for the patient.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-203, 4-5-204, 68-140-503, 68-140-504, 68-140-509, and 68-140-510.

Administrative History: Original rule filed January 4, 2005; effective March 20, 2005.

1200-12-02-.05 NOTIFICATION.

- (1) Upon a situation or event involving suspected chemical agents or other toxic substances responding personnel shall immediately notify an emergency dispatch center and inform appropriate public safety and health officials.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-203, 4-5-204, 68-140-503, 68-140-504, 68-140-509, and 68-140-510.

Administrative History: Original rule filed January 4, 2005; effective March 20, 2005.

1200-12-02-.06 IMMUNIZATIONS DURING DECLARED DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES.

- (1) Notwithstanding any rule to the contrary, during declared disasters and emergencies under T.C.A. § 58-2-101, et. seq., emergency medical technician-IVs (EMT-IVs), advanced emergency medical technicians (AEMTs), paramedics and critical care paramedics (CCPs) may administer immunizations to the public in vaccination clinics operated by State or local health departments in areas covered by the order(s) declaring the disaster or emergency, subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) Public health departments shall provide required, "just-in-time" training for vaccination clinics and document successful completion by EMT-IVs, AEMTs, paramedics or CCPs prior to their administering immunizations in the vaccination clinic.
 - (b) Public health departments shall provide medical direction and control for EMT-IVs, AEMTs, paramedics and CCPs at clinics.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 68-140-303, 68-140-304, 68-140-309, and 68-140-310. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed April 10, 2014; effective July 9, 2014.