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February 9, 2016

To: Chiefs, Executives, and Training Officers in the EMS System for  
Metropolitan Oklahoma City and Tulsa

From: Jeffrey M. Goodloe, MD, NRP, FACEP Medical Director

Re: Protocol 4E – Double Sequential External Defibrillation, Effective Date April 1, 2016

I am writing to inform you that Protocol 4E – Double Sequential External Defibrillation as adopted by the Medical Control Board at its January 6, 2016 meeting is now being withdrawn in light of newly discovered information. A new version of this protocol will be discussed at the Medical Control Board's March 9, 2016 meeting.

There is no definitive textbook chapter on double sequential external defibrillation. While a few EMS systems have anecdotally utilized this defibrillation strategy, we believe we are forging new scientific understanding with defibrillation scientists and researchers. On the basis of such discussions that occurred between leading electrical therapy investigators and the Office of the Medical Director this past week, we believe better technique(s) of double sequential external defibrillation are already evident since January 6, 2016. We will incorporate those techniques in a new version of Protocol 4E.

**So, to be perfectly clear, this communication is to advise you to avoid teaching and/or otherwise preparing for use of Protocol 4E in its version adopted by the Medical Control Board at the January 6, 2016 meeting meant to be effective on April 1, 2016.** This directive has been concurrently approved on behalf of the Medical Control Board by Dr. Michael Smith, Chairman of the Medical Control Board.

While such action is not the usual course of events in our EMS system, it points to how progressive our practice of EMS medicine has become over the past few years. We are no longer following the leader; we have become a legitimate leading EMS system in terms of clinical capabilities and how we measure those capabilities in patient outcomes.

Thank you as always for your dedication to optimal out of hospital EMS medical care and in support of the front-line EMS professionals in the EMS System for Metropolitan Oklahoma City and Tulsa.