

## Vermont EMS Scope of Practice Update – Immunization (Vaccination)

TO: Vermont Emergency Medical Services  
CC: Dan Batsie, Director, Division of Emergency Preparedness, Response & Injury Prevention;  
Will Moran, Chief, Emergency Medical Services, Vermont Department of Health  
FROM: Daniel Wolfson, MD, State EMS Medical Director  
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**Subject: Vermont EMS Scope of Practice Update – Immunization (Vaccination)**

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**SUMMARY** – Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is an important public health resource in the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) vaccination plan. EMS practitioners represent a subset of trained health care professionals that with a small amount of additional training can increase the pool of available vaccinators substantially. By leveraging existing EMS protocols and creating strategic partnerships, the Department intends once again to enlist EMS as a key element of this pandemic response.

**Effective immediately**, we have expanded the scope of practice of currently licensed VT EMS Paramedics, AEMTs and EMTs to include administration of influenza and COVID-19 vaccines per the VDH Vaccination Guidelines. Prior to administering vaccines, each EMS practitioner must complete the VTEMS vaccination training and be credentialed by their EMS Agency or District. Required training is outlined below.

Please review the attached new protocol, entitled, "**Immunization**". The required VT EMS training will be posted on CentreLearn and is as follows:

- All VT EMS Practitioners complete the following CentreLearn modules.
  - Vaccine Intro VTEMS 2021 ([VAXIntro](#))
  - mRNA Vaccines VTEMS 2021 ([MRNAVAX](#))
  - Pfizer Vaccine VTEMS 2021 ([PFIZERVX](#))
  - Moderna Vaccine VTEMS 2021 ([MODERNA](#))
- Paramedic and AEMTs
  - IM Training ALS VTEMS 2021 ([ALSIM](#))
- EMTs
  - IM Training BLS VTEMS 2021 ([EMTIMVAX](#))
  - EMTs must also complete a hands-on practical at their own EMS agency or District and be signed-off by a designated evaluator using the attached skills checklist.

Paramedics, AEMTs or EMTs may integrate into the State vaccination plan in one of the following three ways:

1. VDH contracts with EMS agencies to provide staffing in designated State-run points of vaccine distribution (PODS).

2. EMS practitioners wishing to volunteer to administer vaccinations can join the Vermont Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). The MRC works with a wide variety of approved entities and could use EMS practitioners to enhance its capacity to support vaccination capabilities.
3. EMS agencies and practitioners can partner with other entities previously approved by VDH to offer vaccine points of distribution. These entities, such as hospitals and primary care offices, could utilize EMS practitioners to staff their vaccine administration efforts. In these cases, EMS practitioners would administer vaccines on behalf of and under the supervision of the State approved entity. The authorized entity would be responsible for appropriate maintenance of all federal, state, and local vaccine regulations and requirements.

Due to significant logistical challenges and a limited supply of in-state vaccines, EMS agencies are not authorized to acquire or administer vaccines outside of the guidelines detailed above.

If there are questions, please feel free to contact the EMS office.