



Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor
Damon T. Arnold, M.D., M.P.H., Director

525-535 West Jefferson Street • Springfield, Illinois 62761-0001 • www.idph.state.il.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: EMS System Coordinators

FROM: Walter J. Bradley, MD, MBA, FACEP
Senior Medical Administrator
Office of Preparedness and Response

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter J. Bradley", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Sam Gaines, MD, FACEP
EMS Medical Director
Division of EMS & Highway Safety

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Gaines M.D.", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Cheryl J. Miles, MA
Acting Division Chief
Division of EMS & Highway Safety

RE: Daily Reporting for Hospital Bypass

DATE: January 28, 2008

After the events of Hurricane Katrina, the Illinois Department of Public Health (Department) mandated that all hospitals update their bed status by 10:00 AM each morning. This has proven to be a valuable resource during local disasters within Illinois.

It has come to the Department's attention that some hospitals are not updating their information as required. An example of the need for this information was the LaSalle Bank Chicago Marathon, which progressed to a disastrous situation. The Department had to request that several hospitals update their bed status immediately in the City of Chicago and in surrounding communities.

Bed status information must be updated daily to ensure that the Department can immediately assess the needs throughout the State in the event of a disaster.

Also, there is no longer a need to fax bypass documentation to the Department. Once a hospital enters the data in the web-based Hospital Bypass System, it is captured by the Department. Faxes are only necessary when a hospital is unable to access the Hospital Bypass System and the Department needs to be alerted of the need for bypass. In the event that a fax must be sent, it should be faxed to 312-814-4845, attention Cliff Petit, REMSC, Chicago.

Your cooperation in the submission of daily bed counts and the use of the Hospital Bypass System is greatly appreciated.

c: Dr. Damon Arnold, Director
Dan Lee, Director of EMS Data Systems
Gwendolyn Wooldridge, Director of Hospital Preparedness
Regional EMS Coordinators