

South Plains Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

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Bailey
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Yoakum

January 25, 2012

TO: SPEMS EMS Services
SUBJECT: SPEMS EMT-PARAMEDIC PROTOCOL VARIANCE

With the ongoing medication shortages Fentanyl may be unavailable.

Please let this letter serve as your authority to substitute Morphine for pain management should you be unable to obtain **Fentanyl** from your supplier. Follow your protocol guidelines for Morphine.

In the event the patient is allergic to Morphine substitute Demerol for pain management.

Dosage:

Demerol: 0.5 mg/kg up to 25 mg, ½ dose in patients > 60 years of age.

*May repeat dose as needed for pain one time after 10 minutes, if SBP >90 mm/Hg.

This variance will remain in effect until Fentanyl is available once again from your supplier.

You will need to place a copy of this letter in each protocol book in each ambulance.

Sincerely,

E. Joe Sasin
Medical Director