

WREMAC

MEMORANDUM

To: Western New York EMS Agencies, Providers, and Medical Directors

From: Michael O'Brien, MD, FACEP, CCEMT-P
Chair, Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

Date: July 29, 2020

Re: 2020 WREMAC Annual Skills

In light of the continuing threat and physical distancing requirements posed by the coronavirus pandemic, the WREMAC is eliminating the annual skills requirement for 2020.

There are a few important caveats to this announcement:

- (a) Individual EMS agencies and/or service medical directors may continue to require evaluation of provider skills at their discretion, and
- (b) Providers new to an agency should undergo skills verification prior to delivering patient care, and
- (c) Annual skills are required under the CME-based recertification program through the Department of Health. This state requirement, as of this writing, has **not** been suspended.

Despite this cancellation, the WREMAC strongly encourages agencies and service medical directors to find ways to support their providers' skill maintenance.