

Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

Title: IV Access Policy	Effective Date: May 19, 2004 Page: 1 of 2
Policy #2004-1	Reviewed: June 2009 without changes

Policy:	<p><u>Saline Trap Devices</u> In accordance with the Western Regional Emergency Medical System, Inc. Advanced Life Support Protocols Advanced Life Support providers (AEMT-I) are authorized to receive instruction and perform necessary skills in the utilization of Saline Trap Devices.</p> <p><u>Implanted IV Access Devices</u> Definition: Implanted IV Access Devices include various products (e.g. Hickman, Groshong, Broviac, Mediport, PICC, etc.). They are used for chronic IV therapy in various disease states. They differ by manufacturer, method of placement (surgical or non surgical), type of vein utilized (peripheral or central), and duration of placement. Implanted IV access devices may be accessed by AEMTs when there is no other IV access obtainable and the patient is in cardiac/respiratory arrest, shock, status epilepticus or an unstable cardiac dysrhythmia. Consider using the patient's supplies to access the device. If the device is no longer in use at the time of development of the emergent condition, MC must be contacted. Home peripheral IV and Saline Lock devices may be accessed routinely by prehospital personnel. Prior to use, patency should be confirmed. In a needleless system, if possible, the hub should be replaced with a needle-ready hub to prevent damage. Multiple sticks by a needle in a needle less system may cause leakage.</p>
Procedure:	<p>Questions have arisen regarding AEMT-Intermediates possessing the following necessary equipment for this procedure:</p> <p><u>Syringes</u> – AEMT – Intermediates currently have in their possession, and utilize syringes in conjunction with Endotracheal Intubation. Their possession and use in administering Saline as a part of a Saline Trap is an approved indication.</p> <p><u>Needles</u> – Intermediate units currently carry needles as a part of over – the – needle Intravenous Catheters. Possession and use of additional needles for use with Saline Traps in also an approved indication.</p> <p>It is within the authority of an AEMT-Intermediate unit to possess and utilize the above equipment to comply with the Regional ALS protocols.</p>

Reference:	Memorandum sent out by Dr. Gregory Young to all agencies, course sponsors and county coordinators, dated October 7, 1999 and WREMS ALS Protocols
-------------------	--