




MEDICAL CONTROL DIRECTIVE

2022-08

DATE: April 1, 2022

TO: Pinellas County EMS Agencies
Pinellas County Emergency Communications
Pinellas County Certified EMTs and Paramedics
Pinellas County Certified Advanced Practice Paramedics, Nurses
Pinellas County Online Medical Control Physicians
Pinellas County Ambulance Billing and Financial Services
ED Nurse Managers

FROM: Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director 

RE: Blood Draw Kit Shortage Mitigation

Effective Date: April 6, 2022

Duration: Remains in effect until rescinded or superseded by Medical Control Directive

The current blood draw kit is on backorder with an unknown ETA due to an international shortage of blood tubes (<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/blood-specimen-collection-tube-shortage-frequently-asked-questions>).

To ensure continued systemwide coverage, the following temporary mitigation plan is to be executed no later than April 6, 2022:

Vehicle:

1. The standardized par level of the blood draw kit (CS19.14 Vehicle Supplemental Equipment & Medical Supplies) on all units is to be reduced from 2 to 1.

Agency:

1. Each agency is to maintain 2 spare kits for deployment/resupply as the need arises.

Remaining Inventory:

1. All remaining excess inventory is to be returned to the EMS Central Supply Warehouse including:

- Inventory from the par reduction
- Spare inventory currently being maintained in stations, agency warehousing, reserve units (i.e., rescues, engines, etc.)

Resupply:

1. A replacement kit may be requisitioned on a case by case basis from the EMS Central Supply Warehouse