

COUNTY OF ORANGE HEALTH CARE AGENCY

HEALTH DISASTER MANAGEMENT EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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DATE:

Excellence

Integrity

October 24, 2014

TO:

OCEMS ALS PROVIDERS

OCEMS AMBULANCE PROVIDERS

ORANGE COUNTY EMS RECEIVING CENTERS

FROM:

SAM J. STRATTON, MD, MPH

ORANGE COUNTY EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

SUBJECT:

USE OF EXPIRED DISPOSABLE TYVEK PPE COVERALL KITS

Orange County Health Care Agency Health Disaster Management has previously distributed disposable (white) Tyvek coverall personal protective equipment (PPE) kits. Some of these kits have gone past the labeled five year expiration date listed on the package. Contact with the manufacturer of the kits originally distributed by the Health Care Agency has revealed that the suits were designed to maintain integrity for up to ten years if kept within the original protective packaging.

At present, there is a nationwide shortage of new or replacement Tyvek coverall kits. This memorandum is to approve, for emergency response to suspected Ebola cases, an expiration extension of Health Care Agency previously distributed disposable Tyvek coverall kits. The expiration extension is for up to five years (total of ten years from manufacture) past the labeled expiration for emergency PPE use until currently expired kits can be replaced with newer equipment.

CC: HDM Division Manager

OCEMS Program Administrator

OCEMS ALS Coordinator

OCEMS Facilities Coordinator

OCEMS BLS Coordinator

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