

To: San Mateo County Prehospital Care Providers

From: Gregory H. Gilbert, MD, FAAEM, EMS Medical Director



Date: August 23, 2017

Subject: Epinephrine 1mg in 1:10,000 Pre-load Shortages

Due to the ongoing shortage of Epinephrine 1 mg preloads of 1:10,000 concentrations, the EMS Agency is providing this information as an interim solution.

If your supply of epinephrine 1:10,000 1 mg in 10mls is exhausted, it will be necessary to create this concentration of epinephrine from your supply of epinephrine 1:1000 1 ml vials. To create epinephrine 1:10:000 concentrations complete the following steps.

1. Draw up 1 mg/1 ml of epinephrine 1:1,000 from the vial into a 10 ml syringe.
2. Draw up 9 mls of sterile saline into the 10 ml syringe containing 1 mg of epinephrine. This will result in 1 mg/10mls of epinephrine 1:10,000 concentration.
3. Check your medication dosing with another paramedic on scene, if possible.
4. Preparing medication ahead of time can lead to medication errors and is not a best practice. Do not prepare in advance in anticipation of need.

Please contact our office if you have any questions regarding this memo. We will return to the preloaded preparation of epinephrine 1:10,000 as soon as it is available.

