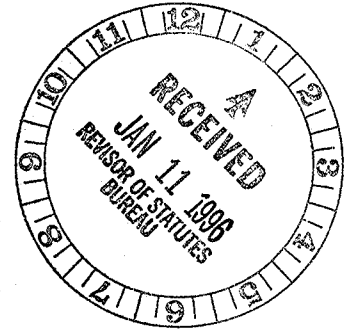


Clearinghouse Rule 95-155



CERTIFICATE

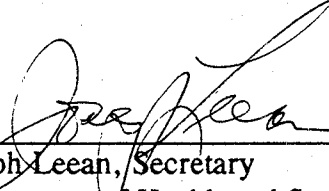
STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES)

I, Joseph Lean, Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services and custodian of the official records of the Department, do hereby certify that the annexed rules relating to qualifications of ambulance service medical directors were duly approved and adopted by this Department on January 11, 1996.

I further certify that this copy has been compared by me with the original on file in the Department and that this copy is a true copy of the original, and of the whole of the original.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Department at the State Office Building, 1 W. Wilson Street, in the city of Madison, this 11th day of January, 1996.

SEAL:



Joseph Lean, Secretary
Department of Health and Social Services

95-155
3-1-96

ORDER OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
CREATING RULES

To create HSS 110.045, relating to the qualifications of medical directors of ambulance services that provide services beyond basic life support services.

Analysis Prepared by the Department of Health and Social Services

Ambulance service providers are required under rules of the Department to have medical directors if they use emergency medical technicians (EMTs)-intermediate or EMTs-paramedic for the delivery of emergency care or if they use EMTs-basic qualified under s.HSS 110.10 to administer defibrillation or under s.HSS 110.11 to use advanced airways.

There are about 450 ambulance service providers in Wisconsin. About 400 of them have medical directors.

Section 146.50(8m), Stats., provides that beginning July 1, 1995 no ambulance service provider offering services beyond basic life support may employ, contract with or use the services of a physician to act as medical director unless the physician is qualified under rules promulgated by the Department. These are the permanent rules to replace emergency rules that went into effect on July 1, 1995.

The rules require that a physician serving as medical director be licensed under ch. 448, Stats., as a physician to practice medicine and surgery, and have read and have acknowledged, in writing, having read the medical directors' manual developed by the Department.

These qualification for ambulance service medical directors are intentionally minimal. In some areas of the state there are few physicians which has meant that some ambulance service providers have appointed a general practitioner or a family practitioner to be medical director. If the Department through this order were to establish additional qualification for medical directors at this time, some local ambulance service providers would not be able to find a physician to serve as medical director and could be forced out of business, leaving those areas of the state without emergency medical services beyond basic life support services. This is what the Department has been told by several physicians, with confirmation by the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program's Physicians' Advisory Committee and the new Emergency Medical Services Board (the EMS Advisory Board) under s. 146.58, Stats.

The Department's authority to create these rules is found in s. 146.50(8m) and (13)(b), Stats. The rules interpret s. 146.50(8m), Stats.

SECTION 1. HSS 110.045 is created to read:

HSS 110.045 QUALIFICATIONS OF MEDICAL DIRECTORS OF CERTAIN AMBULANCE SERVICES. (1) AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE. This section is promulgated under the authority of s. 146.50 (8m) and (13)(b), Stats., to establish qualifications for medical directors of ambulance services providing emergency medical services beyond basic life support services.

(2) APPLICABILITY. This section applies to all ambulance service providers providing advanced life support or other services that require use of advanced skills and to any person who assumes the role of medical director of an ambulance service using EMTs that provide these services.

(3) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) "Advanced life support" means use, by appropriately trained and licensed personnel, in prehospital and interhospital emergency care and transportation of patients, of the medical knowledge, skills and techniques included in the department-approved training required for licensure of EMTs-intermediate under ch. HSS 111 or EMTs-paramedic under ch. HSS 112 and which are not included in basic life support.

(b) "Advanced skill" means any skill that requires medical direction, including the use of non-visualized advanced airways, performance of defibrillation and administration of epinephrine.

(c) "Basic life support" has the meaning specified in s. 146.50 (1) (d), Stats., namely, emergency medical care that is rendered to a sick, disabled or injured individual based on signs, symptoms or complaints, prior to the individual's hospitalization or while transporting the individual between health care facilities and that is limited to use of the knowledge, skills and techniques received from training required to be licensed as an EMT-basic.

(d) "Emergency medical technician-intermediate", means a person who is licensed under s. 146.50 (5), Stats., and ch. HSS 111 to perform functions specified in s. 146.50 (6m) (b), Stats., and ch. HSS 111 relating to the administration of emergency medical procedures in a prehospital setting and the handling and transporting of sick, disabled or injured persons.

(e) "Emergency medical technician-paramedic" means a person who is licensed under s. 146.50 (5), Stats., and ch. HSS 112 to perform the functions specified in s. 146.50 (6m) (c), Stats., and ch. HSS 112 related to the administration of emergency medical procedures in a prehospital setting and the handling and transporting of sick, disabled or injured persons.

(f) "Medical director" means a physician who trains, medically coordinates, directs, supervises, establishes standard operating procedures for, and designates physicians for the day-to-day direction and supervision of emergency medical technicians and who reviews the

performance of emergency medical technicians and ambulance service providers.

(4) QUALIFICATIONS OF MEDICAL DIRECTORS. (a) General. An ambulance service provider offering advanced life support or any other service that requires the use of advanced skills shall have a medical director that meets the following qualifications:

1. The person is licensed as a physician under ch. 448, Stats., to practice medicine and surgery; and

2. The person has read and has acknowledged, in writing, having read in its entirety the medical directors' manual developed by the department.

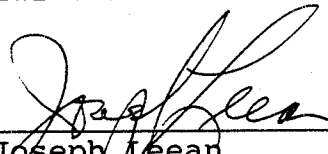
(b) Effect on current provider license. 1. An ambulance service provider providing advanced life support or any other service that requires the use of advanced skills shall, beginning March 1, 1996, have a medical director who meets the qualifications under par. (a), except that when the ambulance service provider appoints a replacement medical director, the new medical director shall have 90 days from the date of appointment to comply with par. (a) 2.

2. On or after March 1, 1996, a person applying for an ambulance service provider license under s. HSS 110.04 at an advanced life support level or to offer any other service that requires the use of advanced skills shall have a medical director who meets the qualifications under par. (a) prior to the license being issued.

The rules contained in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s.227.22(2), Stats.

Wisconsin Department of Health and
Social Services

Dated: January 11, 1996

By: 
Joseph L. Lee
Secretary

SEAL: