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To: New Jersey EMS Community

From: Candace Gardner,  Acting Director, Office of Emergency Medical Services

Date: November 23, 2022

Subject: Guidance Memorandum Regarding Guidelines for Field Triage of Injured Patients, N.J.S.A. 26:2K-12.2.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:2K-12.2(a), New Jersey emergency medical services providers must maintain standards, practices, and protocols in accordance with the guidance provided by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or its successor.

The New Jersey Department of Health's (Department) Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) is issuing this guidance because it has been informed that the CDC will no longer update these guidelines. Further, the CDC has deferred to the American College of Surgeons (ACS) guidelines, revised in 2021, as the industry standard.

The CDC materials "Guidelines for Field Triage of Injured Patients, Recommendations of the National Expert Panel on Field Triage, 2011; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, MMWR, January 13, 2012, Vol. 61, No. 1," referenced in N.J.S.A. 26:2K-12.2(a) and accessed through the Department's website are now superseded by the updated ACS guidelines and can be accessed at:

https://journals.lww.com/jtrauma/Fulltext/2022/08000/National_guideline_for_the_field_triage_of_injured.19.aspx

The Department is in the process of updating the website to reflect the new link to the current guidance. For additional information on the new ACS guidelines, please refer to the ACS press release available at:

<https://www.facs.org/for-medical-professionals/news-publications/news-and-articles/press-releases/2022/trauma-triage-field-guidelines/>

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at Candace.Gardner@doh.nj.gov.