



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Corning Tower

The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza

Albany, New York 12237

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.
Commissioner

Dennis P. Whalen
Executive Deputy Commissioner

February 7, 2006

NYS EMS Agencies
NYS Course Sponsors

Re: 2005 AHA Guidelines

Dear EMS Providers:

The American Heart Association has published their new 2005 Guidelines for Emergency Cardiac Care. The AHA has implemented a timeline spanning through the fall of 2006 for the implementation of these new guidelines within their courses.

The New York State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee and Emergency Medical Services Council is in the process of reviewing the new AHA Guidelines. It is important to remember that these are "guidelines" set forth by the AHA and must be individually reviewed to determine which guidelines will become the standard of care within NYS. The SEMAC and SEMSCO have begun this review process. When this process is complete, they will vote on which guidelines to accept within NYS.

Once the guidelines have been approved by SEMAC and SEMSCO, the Bureau of EMS will begin the process of changing all levels of the NYS written Certification Examinations, Practical Skills Examinations, Statewide BLS Protocols, curricula and Policy Statement 02-04. **Until that time, all of the above mentioned items will still reflect the AHA 2000 Guidelines.**

The Bureau of EMS will notify Course Sponsors as to when the change in certification examinations will be complete. Please continue to check our web site for updates to the process of accepting the 2005 AHA Guidelines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward G. Wronski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Edward G. Wronski
Director
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services