



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Office of Emergency Medical Services  
2 Boylston Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02116  
617-753-7300  
FAX: 617-753-7320

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

JUDYANN BIGBY, MD  
SECRETARY

JOHN AUERBACH  
COMMISSIONER

TO: All MA Licensed Ambulance Services  
FR: Dr. Jonathan Burstein, State Medical Director  
RE: Use of Hemostatic dressings  
DT: November 21, 2007

**ADVISORY**

The Department has reviewed FDA-approved hemostatic dressings (not powders) for pre-hospital use by Massachusetts Emergency Technicians (EMT). These dressings are now accepted for use by all EMS services under the following conditions:

1. Only impregnated dressings are to be used. Powders and other in-wound application systems are not approved.
2. Services should keep in mind that these dressings are designed for management of major uncontrolled hemorrhage, and that standard dressings should be used when medically appropriate.
3. All services using these dressings must properly train their personnel in use and precautions.