STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

OEMS COMMUNICATIONS STATEMENT 16-05

Date: May 11, 2016

To: All Connecticut EMS Organizations

From: Raffaella Coler RN, MEd.
Director, Office of Emergency Medical Services

Re: CLIA Waiver requirement

At a recent Connecticut EMS Advisory Board meeting, a question arose regarding "CLIA Waivers" for EMS organizations performing "point of care" blood testing.

CLIA is the acronym for the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988. This federal regulation establishes quality standards for laboratory testing performed on specimens from humans, such as blood, body fluid and tissue.

Upon OEMS review, all EMS organizations providing "point of care" testing, which includes testing glucose levels, are considered a laboratory and are required to complete and submit a CLIA Waiver application. There are 2 options for obtaining a CLIA Waiver application:

OPTION 1	OPTION 2
Contact the DPH CLIA Program contact person: Lori Griffin 860-509-7400 lori.griffin@ct.gov	Download the CLIA Waiver form (CMS-116) from the CMS website. (If the hyperlink does not work, copy/paste the following url into your browser:) https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/CLIA/How_to_Apply_for_a_CLIA_Certificate_International_Laboratories.html

There are instructions on the webpage that will answer questions you may have, as well as detailed instructions for completion on the application itself.

If you require further assistance, please contact your EMS Regional Coordinator.

Keeping Connecticut Healthy
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