



Regional Emergency Medical Organization  
Regional Medical Advisory Committee



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### **REMAC Advisory: 2008-04: Intraosseous Use**

Currently there are many Advanced Life Support agencies that are deploying intraosseous vascular access devices for use in cases of difficult vascular access in critical patients. Each device currently being used in the Region, Ez-IO<sup>®</sup>, FAST-IO<sup>®</sup> and BIG<sup>®</sup>, should be used following manufacturer's recommendations and agency training. The following guidelines are for clarification of existing vascular access protocol:

#### **Decision to start an IO**

- There are no prophylactic intraosseous lines placed.
- IO may only be placed if there are life-saving interventions to be performed.
- CCT and paramedics may start IO in cases of cardiac arrest
- CCT may not start IO without physician order if patient is not in arrest

#### **Flushing IO for use**

- If an IO is placed in an unresponsive patient, flush the device with normal saline prior to use.
- If an IO is placed in an adult patient who is responsive to pain, please flush the IO with Lidocaine (2%) 2 mL or 40 mg after insertion and prior to any other medication or fluid.
- If an IO is placed in a pediatric patient who is responsive to pain, please flush the IO with Lidocaine (2%) 1 mg per Kg, max 40 mg after insertion and prior to any other medication or fluid.

(NOTE: Lidocaine (2%) is 20 mg per mL)