



**Memorandum**

**To:** EHS Registered Medical First Response Agencies

**CC:** Volunteer MFR Facilitators (Paramedics)  
EHS Supervisors, Regional Managers and Paramedic Bases  
Bob Brown – Director, System Support, EHS Ambulance Operations Management  
Derek LeBlanc – Director, Provincial Programs, Emergency Health Services  
Fire Service Association of Nova Scotia

**From:** Kathleen McNally – Senior Manager, EHS MFR Services

**Date:** 26 January 2010

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Enclosed is important information regarding **EHS MFR re-registration** and **EHS insurance coverage for registered medical first responders**. Please ensure these documents are shared with the members of your fire department/ MFR agency.

Reminder:

- It is the responsibility of each fire department/MFR agency to advise EHS MFR Services of any individuals who are no longer active members of the department/agency, i.e. moved, deceased, resigned, etc. Your assistance will help ensure the accuracy of our records.

We encourage all medical first responders to visit [www.ehsmfr.ca](http://www.ehsmfr.ca) regularly for the most current information on training, registration, and other MFR-related matters of interest.

Please contact me at 902-832-8351 or [kathleen.mcnally@emci.ca](mailto:kathleen.mcnally@emci.ca) if you have any questions.

Yours in medical first response,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kathleen McNally'.

**Attention**  
**Medical First Responders**  
**Is your registration coming up for renewal?**  
**Do you know what's required to re-register?**

If you are an EHS registered MFR, belong to a fire department/MFR Agency, and are looking to renew your registration, please do the following:

- ❖ First, check to see how many mandatory competencies you already have. If you are not sure, you may call either of these two numbers to find out: **832-4685** or **832-8356** and we will review your profile.
- ❖ If you are short a few sessions, check our website [www.ehsmfr.ca](http://www.ehsmfr.ca) to see if there are any sessions happening in your area that may help you towards re-registration with EHS.
- ❖ If there are any sessions you would like to see take place, please have your department training officer contact our MFR facilitator (paramedic volunteer) in your area OR call us at the numbers above to arrange training.
- ❖ Once you have completed ALL six mandatory competencies listed below AND you are near the deadline for your tag expiry, fill out a registration form found on our website and fax it in to the number on the bottom of the sheet.

The six mandatory competencies needed to re-register with EHS are:

- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- Automatic External Defibrillation (AED)
- Primary Survey
- Triage (*now available online*)
- Assessing Vital Signs
- Airway Management

**These EHS approved refresher training sessions are provided by MFR Services approved paramedics volunteering their time throughout the year and are free of charge. It is imperative you sign the roster at each session in order to receive the credit towards your re-registration.**

There are two stipulations required for the MFR tag:

- ❖ You **MUST** be over 19 years of age and a resident of Nova Scotia
- ❖ You **MUST** belong to a fire department/MFR agency listed in the CAD at the EHS Medical Communications Centre

The second way to re-register your tag is to be recertified through one of the EHS approved MFR training agencies; Canadian Red Cross (CRC), or St. John Ambulance (SJA). Following recertification by the Canadian Red Cross or St. John Ambulance, complete the registration form found on our website and fax it, along with a copy of your recertification certificate, to EHS MFR Services at 902-832-8602.

EHS Registered agencies with new MFRs completing the MFR course through CRC or SJA can apply for reimbursement which will be issued to their fire department/MFR Agency; only **two** persons at a maximum rate of \$150.00 per year/per person for each individual agency.

Yours truly in Medical First Response,

Barb Eld  
Registrar  
EHS MFR Services

26 January 2010



## **EHS MFR Services Insurance Information**

### **January 26, 2010**

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There have been previous mail outs distributed to EHS Medical First Responders and registered paramedics alike regarding insurance coverage in “the course of their duties”; however, it appears that there are still be questions with regard to what this coverage includes. “The course of your duties as a medical first responder,” as outlined by the insurance provider for EHS, includes any instance to which you are notified to respond by the EHS Medical Communication Centre. This coverage is also applied to circumstances which you would suddenly witness, such as a cardiac arrest in a public place, a motor vehicle collision (MVC), etc. In such cases, you would provide care and notify 9-1-1 for a request for EHS ambulance service.

#### Our EHS insurer states:

- *The insurance provided by EHS for EHS Registered Medical First Responders is for Errors & Omissions (each claim to a maximum of \$2,000,000.00). This insurance would only be available providing the EHS Registered MFR responded to a call at the request of the EHS Medical Communications Centre. Should an MFR provide medical assistance outside the scope of practice of an EHS MFR, there would be no Errors & Omissions insurance available.*

**The following are a few questions and answers pertaining to enquiries we have received which may be helpful information to your MFR Agency:**

**What if there is a dance at the fire hall where someone collapsed and required CPR and defibrillation?**

*Answer:* You would assist. Call 9-1-1, follow the ABCs, and apply early CPR and defibrillation if necessary. AED is no longer a “delegated medical act”.

**What if I arrive at the scene of a motor vehicle collision?**

*Answer:* You would be fine to assist with basic first aid care, as this is covered under Section 3 of the Nova Scotia Volunteer Services (“Good Samaritan”) Act.

**What if our department covers a motocross race/rally that has high potential for injury?**

*Answer:* You would not be covered under the EHS insurance policy. We recommend that you consider additional insurance coverage for your own protection. Under the Nova Scotia Volunteer Services (“Good Samaritan”) Act you would be covered in providing basic first aid care only.

What if there was a mass community event and our MFR agency was asked to cover the event for medical first response and/or first aid?

*Answer:* You should fill out an event form and send to EHS MFR Services at least ten (10) business days prior to the event. The event will be reviewed by the EHS Regional Manager, Director of Operations, and the EHS Provincial Medical Director. You will be notified in writing, within five (5) business days of the event, informing you if the event is approved or denied by EHS for coverage under the EHS MFR insurance policy.

We hope the above questions and answers are helpful in clarifying information pertaining to the EHS insurance policy. However, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

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EHS MFR Services  
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