



**TO:** ALS Transport Providers  
ALS First Responders  
Base Hospitals  
Receiving Hospitals

**FROM:** Humberto Ochoa, MD *HNO*  
Medical Director

**RE:** Flolan

**DATE:** July 13, 2010

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It has come to our attention that there are several people in the Riverside County area that are on a home IV infusion of Flolan. This is a pulmonary vasodilator used primarily as a salvage agent in severe cases of pulmonary arterial hypertension. Flolan is administered via continuous IV, usually through a central line, although it may be infused via a peripheral IV catheter for a short time. It has a half life of a few minutes, so interruption of the infusion can be life threatening rapidly. The drug uses a special infusion pump that the patient/patient's family is trained to use.

In case the central line fails or is pulled out, the appropriate role of EMS is to establish a peripheral IV line that the patient's family can access with the infusion pump. This is consistent with "assisting the patient with physician prescribed medication" allowed for in the regulations. Prehospital personnel SPECIFICALLY should not alter the dose, administer a bolus, or in any other way attempt to play "catch up" with the medication.

If you have any questions, please contact the EMS Agency at (951) 358-5029.