DATE: August 7, 2019

TO: Michigan EMS Agencies
    Medical Control Authorities

FROM: Sabrina Kerr, EMS Section Manager
      Bureau of EMS, Trauma and Preparedness

SUBJECT: Medical Waste Registration

The Division of EMS and Trauma recently contacted the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), for further clarification of the Medical Waste Regulatory Act (Part 138 of the Michigan Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, as amended) as it relates to Life Support Agency Medical Waste Registration.

Based on EGLE’s additional clarification, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) will no longer require Medical Waste Registration as part of the life support agency licensing requirements. For a list of regulated medical waste for EMS agencies, please refer to page 30 of the Medical Waste Directory. Enforcement of the handling of medical waste is under the Michigan Occupational, Safety, and Health Administration (MI-OSHA) regulations, Part 554, Bloodborne Infectious Diseases Standard, rules 10 and 14 and enforcement of the storage, treatment, and disposal of medical waste is under the EGLE regulations, Part 138, Medical Waste. State EMS Inspectors will continue to refer potential medical waste violations to MI-OSHA and/or EGLE for investigation.

All life support agencies (MFR, BLS, LALS, and ALS) are still required to have a Medical Waste Management Plan in place as part of the licensing requirements. A sample Medical Waste Management Plan can be found on page 115 of the Michigan EMS Agency Licensing and Inspection Manual located on the Michigan.gov/ems website.
If a life support agency brings medical waste back to the agency and stores it for any period of time, please contact EGLE to register the facility as a Medical Waste Producer:

Phone: 517-230-9800
Email: MedicalWaste@michigan.gov
Website: https://www.michigan.gov/egle/0,9429,7-135-3312_4123_4119---,00.html

If you have any questions, please contact Derek Flory, Agency and Vehicle Licensing Coordinator at: Floryd@michigan.gov or 517-335-8382 or Sabrina Kerr, EMS Section Manager at: Kerrs3@michigan.gov or 517-241-3024.