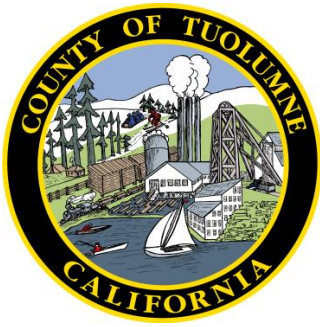




Tuolumne County Emergency Medical Services Agency

Kimberly Freeman, M.D.
EMS Medical Director

Katie Andrews
EMS Coordinator

20111 Cedar Road North.
Sonora, CA 95370

(209) 533-7460 • (209) 533-7406 Fax
<http://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/ems>

August 3, 2023

To: Tuolumne County EMS Personnel

From: Kimberly Freeman, MD, CPE, FACEP, Paramedic, Public Health Officer, EMS Medical Director

Re: Albuterol shortage mitigation

Due to albuterol shortages nationwide, we have added levalbuterol to allowed medications and are now adding Combivent for respiratory cases. Combivent contains albuterol 3mg and ipratropium 500 mg. The label states that the albuterol 3mg is equivalent to 2.5mg base dose.

For all patients ≥ 20 kg where nebulized beta-agonist and ipratropium are indicated, EMS clinicians may use Combivent as first-line in place of albuterol and ipratropium individual doses. Ipratropium should only be dosed once, and subsequent additional beta-agonist doses must not contain ipratropium. For patients < 20 kg, Combivent is not authorized, and EMS clinicians shall continue to use levalbuterol when albuterol is not available with ipratropium.

This memo applies to the following protocols:

- A22 Adult COPD
- A43 Adult Allergic Reaction - Anaphylaxis
- P23 Respiratory Distress
- P42 Allergic Reaction – Anaphylaxis

Kimberly Freeman, MD, MBA, CPE, FACEP, Paramedic
Tuolumne County Health Officer and EMS Medical Director