



Monroe Livingston Region Program Agency

Division of Prehospital Medicine, University of Rochester

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To: All ALS Providers

From: Jeremy T. Cushman, MD, MS, EMT-P *JT Cushman*
Regional Medical Director

Date: November 15, 2013

Re: Advisory 13-10: Promethazine (Phenergan)

The Monroe-Livingston Regional Quality Assurance Committee recently completed a sentinel event review regarding the use of promethazine (Phenergan) in the elderly. The Committee identified that the current protocols and education regarding promethazine (Phenergan) do not effectively communicate the harm that can be associated with its use in the elderly.

Generally, promethazine should NOT be administered to those ≥ 65 years of age due to enhanced sedative effects in this population. Additionally, due to these effects, promethazine should be used with caution when used in conjunction with narcotic analgesics as there may be enhanced sedative effects.

Fluid administration alone (as long as there are no other contraindications) or with ondansetron (Zofran) is preferred in the older adult population. If you chose to use promethazine, please remember that 6.25 and 12.5 mg are equally effective.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Regional Program Agency with any questions.