



Date: May 28, 2024

DPH Numbered Memo EMS 24-01

To: EMS Provider Service and Service Medical Directors

From: OPEHC EMS Section

Heads Up CPR (HUCPR) is not within the Wisconsin EMS Scope of Practice

The Office of Preparedness and Emergency Health Care (OPEHC) is notifying EMS providers that HUCPR is not within the Wisconsin EMS Scope of Practice at any level. As a reminder, Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 110.12 states “An emergency medical services practitioner or emergency medical responder may only perform the skills, use the equipment, and administer the medications that are specified by the department in the [Wisconsin scope of practice](#) for the level to which the individual is licensed, certified, or credentialed.”

HUCPR has recently garnered increased attention through trade organizations and conferences, the equipment industry and EMS publications. Despite this attention, there is insufficient peer-reviewed evidence available to suggest that HUCPR offers any significant improvement in outcomes compared to highly effective CPR.

The Physician Advisory Committee, at their public meetings last year, reviewed the available published literature, invited subject matter experts, listened to input from public attendees. The Physician Advisory Committee recommended against adding HUCPR to Wisconsin EMS Scope of Practice due to the insufficient evidence surrounding it. OPEHC, after reviewing the Physicians Advisory Committee’s position and the available evidence, determined the current science regarding HUCPR is insufficient to warrant its inclusion in Wisconsin EMS Scope of Practice.

With the increased attention regarding HUCPR, OPEHC wants to ensure that all service directors and service medical directors are aware that HUCPR (with or without elevation equipment) is not within the Wisconsin EMS Scope of Practice at any level and should not be utilized by EMS personnel. OPEHC, with advice from the Wisconsin EMS Board and Physician Advisory Committee, will continue to review the evidence on HUCPR to help inform if or when to adopt HUCPR into the Wisconsin EMS Scope of Practice.

If you have specific questions about HUCPR or any items of scope of practice, please send an email to dhsemssmail@dhs.wisconsin.gov.