



Wisconsin State Patrol Division Headquarters
Hill Farms State Office Building
4822 Madison Yards Way, 9th Floor South
Madison, WI 53705

Governor Tony Evers
Secretary Kristina Boardman
wisconsindot.gov
Telephone: (844) 847-1234
FAX: (608) 267-4495

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Background: TR309.24(1)(k) requires every ambulance to be equipped with impervious, radiolucent long backboard and short extrication/ immobilization device. Long back-board shall be head-to-foot length with at least 3 appropriate restraint straps and with capabilities to add padding for children and handholds for moving patients.

Variance Request: A variance request was submitted to the Division of State Patrol (DSP) by the Systems Management & Development Committee of the Wisconsin EMS board to not require ambulances to be equipped with a short extrication/immobilization device (KED board, half board, short board). These types of devices are not included in the WI. Dept. of Health Services (DHS) guidance, including the EMS Standard of Care & WI. EMS Protocols. This variance does not conflict with DHS scope of practice.

Guidance: The Division of State Patrol in agreement with the Division of Public Health, approve this variance with the following requirement:

- Each ambulance shall still carry an *impervious, radiolucent long backboard* that is *head-to-foot length with at least 3 appropriate restraint straps and with capabilities to add padding for children and handholds for moving patients.*
- Trans 309.07(5) requires a copy of the variance to be carried in the ambulance at all times.

Sincerely,

Mark Mandler
Dept. of Health Services – EMS Section Manager

Captain Karl L. Mittelstadt
Division of State Patrol – Motor Carrier Enforcement Section