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**Background:** TR309.24(1)(b) requires that each ambulance shall have one bag-valve mask (BVM) unit for each size, adult, child, and infant. The bag shall be hand-operated, self-refilling with an accumulator capable of delivering an FiO<sub>2</sub> of 90 percent and may not have a pop-off valve. The mask portion shall be transparent. The valve portion shall be clear, disposable and operable in cold weather. A child bag shall have a reservoir of approximately 450 ml, and an adult bag shall have a reservoir of at least 1000 ml.

**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 asking for it to be permissible to use BVM's that have a reservoir slightly smaller than 1000ml or with a reservoir without a stated volume as all of the commercially available BVM's work exactly the same in practice.

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

- The bag shall have a reservoir sufficient to ventilate adult, child and infant patients with volumes that are safe and physiologic.
- 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