



# State of New Hampshire

## Department of Safety

Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services  
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Robert L. Quinn  
Commissioner

Justin A. Cutting  
Director

# CLINICAL BULLETIN

Bulletin #	Title			Date Issued
84	Prerequisite Protocol – Operational K9			December 29, 2023
Superseded	Released By	Approved By	Source	For More Information
	FSTEMS	Chief Romanello		FSTEMS (603) 223-4200

With the Adoption of SB 268 by the Governor on July 28, 2023, the Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services (FSTEMS) has been working with external stakeholders and both the NH Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board and the NH Medical Control Board to facilitate the additional allowances in *RSA 153-A:37 Operational Canines; Hospital Treatment*.

In accordance with RSA 153 and Administrative Rules 5900 and 7400, the Operational Canine Prerequisite Protocol has been created to allow for the treatment of operational canines by approved licensed units and affiliated providers. FSTEMS collaborated with the entities mentioned above to develop an administrative guide to assist units and providers with the application process as well as identify all required components for approval of such; to include training and relationship requirements.

As of 29 December 2023, Commissioner Quinn has adopted State of New Hampshire Patient Care Protocols Version 8.2 which includes the incorporation of Prerequisite Protocol 7.6 – Operational K9 into the previous version, 8.1. There are no other changes to the previous version.

As a reminder, all licensed transport units can provide transportation to ill or injured operational K9’s but the care of these animals is only allowed to those approved through the prerequisite protocol. For more information on the protocol and or how to apply please follow the below link and/or contact Captain Vicki Blanchard, [vicki.l.blanchard@dos.nh.gov](mailto:vicki.l.blanchard@dos.nh.gov).

Operational K9 Administrative Packet - <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/advlifesup/documents/OperationalK9AdministrativePacketFinal.pdf>