

The Monitor

The monthly electronic newsletter for the Southern Illinois Regional EMS System.

September 2016

COMMAND: Dr. Haake wants to thank everyone that attended the SIH Stroke Network Symposium back in August at John A. Logan College. He and the other physicians were very pleased with the turn out. We heard from the EMS personnel in attendance that the presentation and the food were both good!

Dr. Haake also wants to congratulate the newest SIREMS Paramedic Preceptors Mark Cerny and Dallas Rumsey. Mark is a Paramedic with Union County Ambulance and Dallas is a Paramedic with West Frankfort Fire Department.

FINANCE: The 2017 EMS Assistance Grant applications are currently being accepted through October 4, 2016. The application requirements and instructions can be found at www.idphgrants.com. If there are any questions about the grant application process, contact Paula.Atteberry@illinois.gov.

LOGISTICS: IDPH recently released a document that expands the scopes of practice for all levels of EMS in Illinois, from First Responder through Paramedic. Training will be scheduled in the coming months on the expanded scope(s) of practice that pertain to your department/service. Dr. Haake is reviewing the document now, deciding what components of the expanded scopes of practice we want to institute within SIREMS.

Dr. Haake mandated that EMS System Preceptors attend the Stroke Symposium back in August. Those Preceptors that were unable to attend in person or by webinar will have an opportunity to participate by viewing the webinar and completing the post-webinar quiz on www.sirems.com. The webinar will be posted on the system website during the week of September 19-23, 2016. The Preceptors that were unable to participate in August must complete the webinar and quiz online by Friday October 21, 2016. Any SIREMS Preceptors that has not completed the webinar and quiz by the deadline will have their Preceptor privileges revoked.

EMS Personnel that participate in more than one system and renew their EMS license in another system are still required to submit their continuing education records to the EMS Office to verify compliance with SIREMS policy. Dr. Haake wanted to reinforce that any SIREMS participant that renews through another system and does not send their continuing education records to the EMS Office will be immediately suspended.

There have been a few EMS agencies and personnel that have asked about SALT airways. Dr. Haake has researched and reviewed data on the SALT and the results are not good. In one independent study, the SALT was tested in a controlled surgical environment and only had a success rate of 40%. SIREMS will not be using the SALT airway.

The EMS Office continues to have issues with EMS Personnel keeping current and submitting updated records on the SIREMS mandatory credentials. **Dr. Haake has ordered the immediate suspension of anyone with an expired mandatory credential starting October 1, 2016.** For a reminder, here are the mandated credentials for each license level.

FRD: CPR

EMT-B: CPR

EMT-I: CPR, ACLS

EMT-P: CPR, ACLS, PALS/PEPP, ITLS/PHTLS

Don't forget about the SIREMS email alerts and the SIREMS text message alerts. Both are now available and you can sign up by going to www.sirems.com, and look for the links at the top left corner of the home page.

OPERATIONS: For the system Paramedics that have not completed the Fentanyl training: Contact the EMS Office to schedule your Fentanyl training ASAP. All system personnel functioning at the Paramedic level must complete the Fentanyl training in order to administer the medication.

BLS services: The albuterol and aspirin additions have been approved for some time, but we still have BLS services that have not completed the training. Please contact the EMS Office to schedule the training. Also, ALS and ILS services need to train their BLS staff on the albuterol and aspirin update as well. The EMS Office has the training materials and we are willing to assist with the education of your staff.

ALS Services: CroFab antivenin has been added to the approved transfer medication list and the protocol BB-01 MEDICATIONS STOCKED IN EACH AMBULANCE has been updated to reflect the change. CroFab has the same requirement as an antibiotic, in that the medication must be running for 15 minutes prior to departure to rule out an allergic reaction.

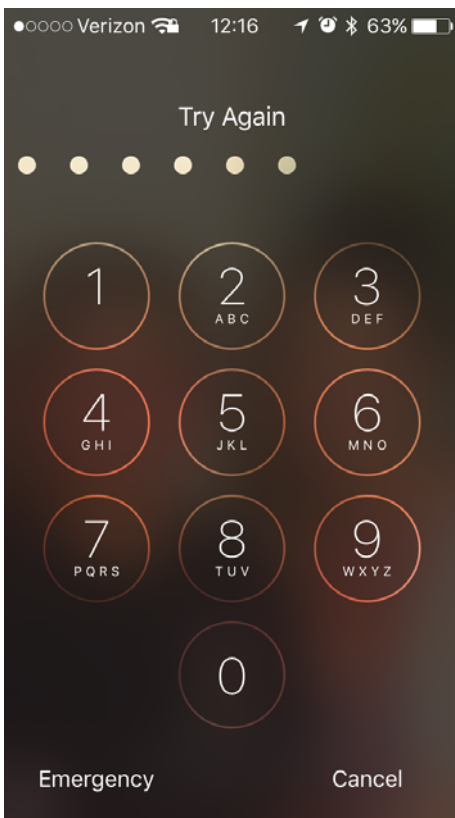
As part of the IDPH expanded scope document, IDPH has approved EMT-Basics administering epinephrine 1:1000 with a needle, syringe, and drawing from a vial. This will be in lieu of the Epi Pen auto injectors. The EMS Office is working on the protocol updates and the education for this change. More to come soon.

The EMS Office is also working on the protocol updates and education for FRD through Paramedics to administer atomized naloxone. More on this very soon as well.

PLANNING: Don't forget about our EMS Calendar at www.sirems.com

- Sept 22: IDPH EMS/Trauma Advisory Councils, video conf. at IDPH Marion
- Sept 23-24: Ped. Emergency Medicine Symposium, St. Louis
- Sept 29-30: PHTLS at Franklin Hospital

TIP OF THE MONTH: We have geared ourselves towards looking for a medical ID bracelet or necklace when we have a patient experiencing an altered level of consciousness. But, do we look anywhere else? There iPhone has a Medical ID application built in their phones and it can be accessed even with a locked screen. When you hit the home button and see the lock screen, it says Emergency in the bottom left corner. If you touch the word Emergency, it will open their Medical ID information. Give it a try...



If you have any questions or information for "The Monitor", please contact me at Brad.Robinson@sih.net or SouthernIllinoisRegionalEMS@gmail.com (09-17-16).