



The Monitor

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

October 2018

COMMAND: Dr. Haake wanted to remind everyone about the 21st Annual Deaconess Trauma Conference on November 2, 2018 in Evansville, Indiana. Dr. Haake will be one of the presenters and his topic this year is Drugs of Use - Drugs of Abuse. Additional information and registration is available at www.deaconess.com or the EMS Calendar on www.sirems.com.

FINANCE: Nothing new on the grant or finance front this month.

LOGISTICS: IDPH has approved our latest addition to the SIREMS protocol set, the environmental temperature control policy. In an attempt to maintain the quality and efficacy of the pre-hospital medications and injectable fluids given to our patients, we are requiring each service to develop a policy to keep them stored at "Controlled Room Temperature" (59° - 86°F). Every medication and injectable fluid has a recommended storage temperature and we urge services to follow the manufacturer's guidelines. However, Controlled Room Temperature is a range recognized by the United States Pharmacopeia, the Committee on Accreditation of Ambulance Services, and others as a general storage temperature target. Since each service is different, there is flexibility within the protocol for each department to create a policy that works logistically and financially for them. We encourage front line, supervisory, and administrative staff to collaborate to find the best solution for your departments. If you have any questions, please contact the EMS Office.

Reminder: Even if you work full time in another EMS System, you must supply the EMS Office with your renewal CEUs for review. Even if you renew through another system, we have to review your CEUs to ensure compliance with our policies. Contact the EMS Office with any questions.

Besides the Deaconess Trauma Conference mentioned above, St. Louis Children's Hospital and Washington University are holding a Pediatric Trauma Update class on November 6, 2018 at John A. Logan College. Go to the EMS Calendar on www.sirems.com for more information.

For those of you looking for a First Responder (EMR) class, Randy Grohler and Lake of Egypt Fire Department have a class starting this Friday. Go to the Lake of Egypt FD Facebook page for more information and registration.

OPERATIONS: For the transport agencies that early activate Code Stroke cases, the SIH Stroke Program has extended the window between last known well time and early activation to 24 hours. It was previously a 6 hour window, but advances in care of large vessel occlusions have warranted the expansion to 24 hours. If you have any questions, contact the EMS Office.

Please be mindful of pedestrians while driving or responding to calls for service. The weather is cooling off and the numbers of bicyclists and pedestrians is increasing. Pay careful attention the week of Halloween due to some costumes and decorations causing blind spots and limiting visibility.

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

Oct 9: Pediatric Education Day from Cardinal Glennon, Mt. Vernon

Oct 10: Weathering the Storm Disaster Conference, Marion

Oct 12-14: NAEMSE Instructor 1, Belleville

Oct 13: SIREMS Triage Tag Day

Oct 18: Regional EMS and Trauma Advisory Committees, HRMC Marion

Oct 31: Halloween

TIP OF THE MONTH: October is the month the fire service most strongly works to educate the community on fire prevention. Our EMS family should take a page from fire's playbook and provide more EMS and safety related information to our citizens. Consider educational topics like care seat installations, bicycle safety and helmet use, safe storage and disposal of medications, house numbers, the use of the medical ID apps on smartphones, and much more. If your department does anything like this, let us know...we would love to share your story.

If you have any questions or information for "The Monitor", please contact me at Brad.Robinson@sih.net or SouthernIllinoisRegionalEMS@gmail.com (10-03-18).