



# *The Monitor*

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

March 2018

**COMMAND:** Dr. Haake wants to thank everyone for their service. The time will “spring” forward on Sunday March 11<sup>th</sup>. Remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors, and pass that message along to your friends, family, and the citizens in your response areas.

Jack Fleearty, former IDPH EMS Division Chief, left the Division of EMS at the end of December 2017. IDPH has appointed an acting EMS Division Chief, Leslee Stein-Spencer. Ms. Stein-Spencer formerly served as EMS Division Chief for nine years prior to Mr. Fleearty. This change will not effect ambulance service or individual processes, applications, or submissions to IDPH.

**FINANCE:** The Fiscal Year 2019 EMS Assistance Grant application period is open through the end of business on Monday, March 26, 2018. For application instructions, visit <https://www.illinois.gov/sites/GATA/Grantee/Pages/default.aspx>.

**LOGISTICS:** Dr. Haake and the EMS Office is rolling out Drug Assisted Intubation training to the remaining Paramedic ambulance services in SIREMS. Your ambulance service administrators will be notified on the scheduling. Jackson County Ambulance is first up and they will be scheduled this month.

Draft TXA (Transexamic Acid) protocols are in the works for SIREMS Paramedic providers. TXA is administered for management of hemorrhage in trauma patients. The behind the scenes work continues and it will be rolling out in 2018.

The EMS Office has a UV-C disinfection lamp that can be checked out and used in ambulances and stations/living quarters. The UV-C lamp will kill 99.9% of all viruses and bacteria (including influenza and C-diff) in a treated area. The EMS Office also has N95 fit test kits that can be checked out by SIREMS EMS agencies as well. We have both types of quantitative test kits, the sweet and bitter test solution kits. Services that are interested in using either resource can contact the EMS Office.

The system website, [www.sirems.com](http://www.sirems.com), is built on a very old format and does not play nice with SIH's new servers and systems. Because of the site's age, it is now showing a security certificate issue on most browsers. The site is hosted by SIH and it is completely safe for use. If you navigate to [www.sirems.com](http://www.sirems.com) and receive a security alert, simply choose to continue to the site.

First Responders: We have a draft set of new FRD/EMR protocols nearly complete. They are in flow chart format and will be separate from the BLS, ILS, and ALS protocol sets. They include the new scope of practice changes and we expect they will be easier to use at the FR level.

The EMS Office along with the Shawnee Preparedness and Response Coalition (SPARC) will be continuing to host Stop the Bleed training sessions for local law enforcement and community groups. If any EMS personnel are interested in hosting or assisting in teaching these programs, contact the EMS Office.

The EMS Office is also teaching Naloxone to law enforcement in 7 different counties. If any EMS personnel want to assist with Narcan training, let us know.

**OPERATIONS:** First Responders: We have added aspirin, blood glucose monitoring, oral glucose, naloxone, blind insertion airways, and mandatory epinephrine auto injectors to the FR/EMR scope of practice. Training has been rolling out to the FR agencies over the past few months and continues. Contact the EMS Office with questions or for scheduling.

Intermediate and Paramedic personnel: Complete your online DuoNeb training so your ambulance services can stock the new medication. If you are unsure of your individual or department status on the completion of DuoNeb training, contact our office.

New BLS, ILS, and ALS equipment lists have been added to the protocol set and distributed to the ambulance service administrators. We encourage to reference it and incorporate it into your daily ambulance checks. You can review the updated equipment lists at [www.sirems.com](http://www.sirems.com) and go to BB-01 and BB-02.

Remember when you update a credential like CPR, ACLS, PALS, PHTLS, etc, be sure to send a copy to the EMS Office. This can be done by email, fax, drop box at the EMS Office, or by texting a picture to Nathan or Brad. If we do not have an update on a required credential, you will be suspended from functioning within the system.

Don't forget to document the times on your assessments and interventions in the patient care report. We are still finding reports that do not have times documented on interventions and medication administrations.

**PLANNING:** Don't forget about our EMS Calendar at [www.sirems.com](http://www.sirems.com)

- March 07: Williamson Co. Substance Abuse Task Force, IDPH Marion
- March 11: Daylight Savings Time
- March 13: SIREMS Triage Tag Day
- March 17: St. Patrick's Day

March 29: Illinois EMS Summit, Memorial Medical Center, Springfield

April 01: Easter and April Fool's Day

*TIP OF THE MONTH:* Remember that N95 fit testing is brand and size specific. A medium from 3M may not fit the same as a medium from Baxter Medical. You should perform another fit test if your brand is discontinued or unavailable and if you have a significant fluctuation in weight.

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