



# *The Monitor*

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

June 2018

**COMMAND:** The EMS Office is taking some latitude with the Command section this month and we begin by congratulating Dr. Haake and his family on the birth of Jenna, the newest member of the Haake family. Jenna was born on May 31st and she and the entire family are all doing well.

Dr. Haake and the EMS Office also want to welcome the new EMS Manager of Massac EMS, Mr. Randall Grohler. Randall is new to Massac EMS and to the Southern Illinois Regional EMS System. Welcome aboard!

**FINANCE:** For those services owned by units of local government, the recently approved FY 19 state budget had a small amount of good news. Last year, the state withheld 10% of Local Government Distributive Funds and 2% of local sales taxes. This coming year, the state is withholding only 5% of LGDF and 1.5% local sales taxes.

**LOGISTICS:** Reminder: If you navigate to [www.sirems.com](http://www.sirems.com) and receive a security alert, simply choose to continue to the site. The site is completely SAFE, it is causing this problem because it's built on an old format. A new site is being built, but we do not yet have an estimated completion date on the new website.

First Responders: The new FR/EMR protocols are complete and posted on the system website, [www.sirems.com](http://www.sirems.com). If anyone has questions or issues with the updated EMR protocols, content or formatting, please contact the EMS Office.

All Providers: The pediatric protocols have been updated for all levels and they also have been posted on [www.sirems.com](http://www.sirems.com). The pediatric protocols were updated to the latest Illinois Emergency Medical Services for Children updates. Please contact the EMS Office with any questions or concerns.

Here's another reminder about EMS license renewals. EMT, Intermediate, and Paramedic license renewals must follow the new IDPH continuing education guidelines on CEU hours in specific topics. The state guidelines as well as worksheets for each license level are available on [www.sirems.com](http://www.sirems.com).

IDPH is coming to inspect our EMS System on July 9-10, 2018. We at the EMS Office are working hard to prepare for their visit and it is taking up a great deal of our time. Please have patience with us during the next month or so while we get ready.

**OPERATIONS:** With new cases of Ebola being identified in the Democratic Republic of Congo, do not forget the Ebola Screening Tool for EMS. The screening tool and the additional EMS Ebola documents are still on the system website. Here's the key points of the EMS Ebola Screening Tool.

Ask EVERY patient early in the encounter:

- Do they have a fever? (101° or higher)
- Have they traveled out of the country in the last 3 weeks, especially to West Africa.

For individual EMS personnel and members of management, please consider the temperatures of your fluids and medications while stored in your vehicles and bases. The EMS Office is working on an environmental controls policy to address the storage temperatures of fluids and medications. There are many ways to deal with these issues, from installing air conditioning and heat in vehicle bays to compartmentalizing medications and fluids in boxes or bags that can be brought into climate controlled areas of the base when the trucks are parked. If you have any questions or possible input into the draft policy, contact the EMS Office.

Transport agencies: Remember, a hospital that is not your Medical Control cannot give you medical direction or dictate to you the destination facility of your patient. The patient's destination is based mostly on their request, while also following SIREMS policy and under the advisement of Medical Control. If there are any questions on destination, contact the EMS Office.

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

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| June 07:   | IDPH Trauma Advisory Council, videoconference at IDPH Marion |
| June 13:   | SIREMS Triage Tag Day  |
| June 14:   | Flag Day   |
| June 15:   | 2018 Midwest Pediatric Trauma Conference, St. Louis          |
| June 17:   | IDPH EMS Advisory Council, videoconference at IDPH Marion    |
| July 04:   | Independence Day   |
| July 9-10: | IDPH EMS Site Visit of SIREMS                                |

*TIP OF THE MONTH:* As temperatures rise, stay hydrated. Remember, coffee (a staple in most EMS bases), has diuretic effects. Coffee in moderation and plenty of water.

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) (06-03-18).