



The Monitor

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

January 2020

COMMAND: With the new year, Dr. Haake has many ideas for our EMS System in 2020. He also encourages the sharing of any new ideas for changes and improvements to our system and EMS Service's clinical, operational, and administrative policies and processes. Please share any ideas for 2020 and beyond with the EMS Office.

Another way or platform to share ideas is the SIREMS Town Hall meetings. The next Town Hall is January 30th from 7p-9p at John A. Logan College, room F119. A link to register for the January Town Hall Meeting is on the news feed of www.sirems.com or copy and paste the following address to go directly to the registration form.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeoTMZ2GIV4g_7ZaMK-Vhrs23K_IVzOedu8JXfXvgKLMkSVfw/viewform

FINANCE: As of publish date, there is no announcement of the recipients of the IDPH EMS Assistance Grant. We do encourage all EMS agencies and personnel to share any grant or funding opportunities with the EMS Office. We will happily share those opportunities with our SIREMS services.

LOGISTICS: Due to the findings of the recent CRASH-3 study, Dr. Haake has changed a portion of the JJ-34 TXA-TRANEXAMIC ACID drug profile. The contraindication of intracranial hemorrhage has been removed from the drug profile and the protocol. Dr. Haake will explain this change and the results of the CRASH-3 study in the upcoming Town Hall Meeting. Also, the TXA training sessions are being scheduled now. EMS Administrators of ALS services should contact the EMS Office to schedule the training.

A few reminders on IDPH EMS license renewals:

- License renewals are a two part process. Not only do you have to pay the IDPH renewal fee and answer their questions on child support status and felony conviction history, but the EMS Office must review and approve your continuing education. This should all occur weeks prior to the expiration date, not two days before the expiration date.
- Be sure to update your address with IDPH whenever you move. One of the biggest reason EMS personnel expire or cut it too close is because they do not receive their renewal notice in the mail. It is an IDPH requirement to change your address, per IDPH Administrative Rule 515.540 (d), see below...

An EMT, A-EMT, EMT-I or Paramedic shall notify the Department within 30 days after any change in name or address. Notification may be in person or by mail, phone, fax or electronic mail. Addresses may be changed through the Department's on-line system. Name and gender changes require certified copies of court orders, i.e., marriage license or court documents.

- Address changes can be done on www.dph.illinois.gov or contact the EMS Office for assistance. Name change requests are more complex and we encourage you to contact the EMS Office for assistance.

IDPH pushed out information from the US Food and Drug Administration on the approval of AED devices. The list of approved devices was posted in the news feed on www.sirems.com. If there are any questions on the approved AED list, contact the EMS Office. Along with the AED list, there were also end of life statements posted from Lifepak-Stryker, Philips, and Zoll. For the ILS and ALS agencies, please check your devices to the end of service/end of life documents for your brand of monitors.

OPERATIONS: For those ILS and ALS agencies that have ETCO₂ capabilities, it MUST be used to verify endotracheal tube placement. Waveform capnography is the gold standard for verifying proper tube placement. If your service has it available but you choose not to use it, that will be very difficult to justify to the EMS Office, Dr. Haake, or a jury of your peers. If your ILS or ALS service does not have capnography, you should be using colormetric CO₂ detection devices.

If anyone has issues finding what you need on the new SIREMS website, please let us know. Though the site is new and we no longer have to deal with downtime issues, it has proven to be more difficult to navigate and use. Please contact the EMS Office if you have any questions or need assistance finding something.

When exchanging medications from SIH hospitals, remember there is one type of form for exchanging what was used on a patient and another type of form for exchanging a medication that was damaged or expired. Please make sure the concentrations are documented correctly and the signatures are legible. Contact the EMS Office with any questions.

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

- Jan 13: SIREMS Triage Tag Day
- Jan 14: SPARC Quarterly Meeting, The Pavilion, Marion
- Jan 16: Region 5 EMS and Trauma Advisory Committees, SIH Corporate
- Jan 27: IDPH EMS Education Committee, IDPH Office Marion

Jan 30: SIREMS Town Hall Meeting, JALC F119

TIP OF THE MONTH: Remember to use the size, brand, make, and model of N95 respirator that was used when you were fit tested. Fit testing is specific to the size, make, and model of respirator...a medium of one brand is not a medium in another. Anyone that has ever tried to wear a shirt from that old Hollister store understands that sizes are not universal through manufacturers.

If you have any questions or information for "The Monitor", please contact me at Brad.Robinson@sih.net or SouthernIllinoisRegionalEMS@gmail.com (01-04-20).