



The Monitor

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

November 2016

COMMAND: November is a month where we reflect on the sacrifices from those who served our country in the armed forces with Veterans Day. It is also the month we reflect on family and friendships with Thanksgiving. Dr. Haake and the EMS Office staff wish safety, peace, and happiness through the November holidays.

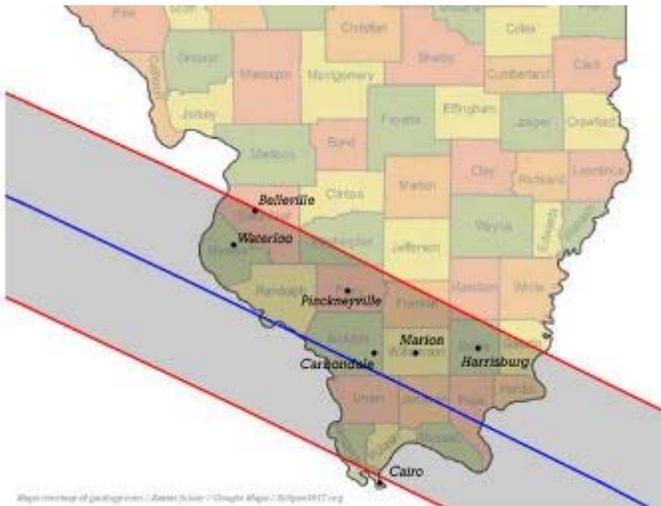
FINANCE: Don't forget about the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). The eligibility criteria now include EMS and the deadline for application is November 18, 2016. For more information, go to <https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>.

LOGISTICS: For those ambulance services using the EMScan Key Data Web patient care report system from IDPH, an update occurred on November 1st. The update covered all the necessary changes for the NEMSIS version 3 data requirements. The new instruction guide for the EMScan upgrade was distributed to all the EMS services and posted on sirems.com. For the ambulance services using third party vendors for patient care reporting, make sure they have made the necessary upgrades for NEMSIS version 3. Contact the EMS Office with any questions.

While participating in a phone conference recently, we learned of ambulance services in Northern Illinois having issues with Stryker brand warranties on cots and stair chairs. The report was Stryker equipment warranties would void if the ambulance carrying the Stryker equipment was involved in any type of crash or collision. This even included very low speed collisions. If your service uses Stryker equipment, we suggest you contact your Stryker representative to obtain clarification on the warranty issues.

There are now con-ed worksheets posted on the system website under SIREMS Forms. The worksheets break down the hours and subjects that must be obtained to comply with the IDPH continuing education changes. Also on sirems.com, there is also a listing of all topics covered in each subject area required by IDPH. These changes will be enforced on all licenses renewed after January 1, 2017. We suggest that you review your continuing education weeks or months before your expiration date to ensure compliance with the new IDPH requirements.

OPERATIONS: Please get plugged into the planning and management efforts occurring in the area for the 2017 Total Solar Eclipse. The eclipse is occurring on August 21, 2017 and there are many people expected to converge on Southern Illinois. The point of maximum duration is south of Carbondale, near Makanda. This eclipse will effect most of Southern Illinois and we need to be prepared for the potential influx of people. There are 36 million people that live within a 300 mile radius of the point of maximum duration. This means there are 36 million people within a one day drive of our response areas. Makes you think, huh? More information can be found at eclipse2017.org. Here's a map of the eclipse path below.



We have heard a few issues regarding child safety seats in the ambulances. Remember to transport our appropriate pediatric patients in child safety seats. It is not appropriate to transport infants and toddlers in their caregiver's arms. Also, make sure you are using the appropriate child safety seat to transport your pediatric patient. If you have any questions regarding child safety seats, please discuss with your service's management and/or the EMS Office.

Please remember the contraindications for aspirin administration. They include allergy, sudden severe headache, possible stroke, recent head trauma, active GI bleed, active ulcer disease, bleeding disorders, and children. A recent case presented an elderly patient that experienced a ground level fall causing a nosebleed. The patient also complained of chest pain. Because this patient struck their head, aspirin should be withheld because of the possibility of a brain bleed. Don't underestimate the actions of aspirin simply because it's an over the counter medication.

If you haven't already, sign up for the SIREMS email blasts and text messages. Stay connected with the most recent EMS news and alerts by receiving emails and/or text messages from the Southern Illinois Regional EMS System. The links to sign up for both email and text messages are located under the EMS tab at the top left corner of the sirems.com homepage. Sign up and stay informed today!

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

Nov 06:	Change your clocks/Change your batteries (fall back)
Nov 08:	Election Day
Nov 10:	O'Fallon Pediatric Conference
Nov 11:	Veterans Day
Nov 13:	SIREMS Triage Tag Day
Nov 14-15	Cardinal Glennon Pediatric Training, Herrin Hospital
Nov 17:	IDPH EMS Advisory Council, Springfield
Nov 24:	Thanksgiving

TIP OF THE MONTH: Take a good look around the patient compartment of your ambulance for items that are not secured. Items in the back of your ambulance that are not secured will become flying debris in the event of a crash or collision. This flying debris will cause further injury **or worse** to you, your crew members, or your patients. Make sure all the items and equipment in the patient compartment are stowed away or secured properly.

If you have any questions or information for "The Monitor", please contact me at Brad.Robinson@sih.net or SouthernIllinoisRegionalEMS@gmail.com (11-04-16).