



The Monitor

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

September 2018

COMMAND: Dr. Haake and the EMS Office wish everyone a safe and happy Labor Day! Stay safe and have fun with family and friends while enjoying September weather and probably visiting a state, county, or local fair...tis the season.

FINANCE: Nothing new on the grant or finance front this month, but some of our fire based services have been receiving their awards on OSFM small equipment grants.

LOGISTICS: Well, the SIREMS system is not getting a new website but the security certificate has been restored. So, the days of the pop up warnings are gone and navigating to www.sirems.com now goes smoothly.

Speaking of the website, there have been a number of clean up measures, formatting changes, and updates to the protocols during the last few months. All of the current and updated protocols can be reached through the protocol tab of the website. However, the alphabetical index was not updated at the same time and rate as the original index. Nathan Bressner is currently working on making the necessary updates to the alphabetical index. For the time being, you will always find the current and correct protocol from the "Protocols" tab.

IDPH continues to replace vacant EMS positions in Springfield and is working to catch up on license applications and renewals. If anyone has a question about a pending renewal or initial license application, please contact us at the EMS Office.

Congrats to the Carterville Fire Department for working towards upgrading from Intermediate status to Paramedic level. The upgrade is waiting on the delivery of a few pieces of ALS equipment and medications, which should be complete in the coming days.

IDPH requires that EMS license holders renew their licenses through the EMS System of primary affiliation. SIREMS also requires that every EMS provider that participates in our system but has primary affiliation in another system, MUST provide their renewal CEUs to the EMS Office. Though you may renew in another system, you must provide your renewal CEUs to prove compliance with SIREMS policies. Please contact the EMS Office with any questions.

There is a new resource that has been developed to help emergency responders with post incident issues called Illinois Firefighter Peer Support. Their website is www.ilffps.org and they have resources for peer group support, individual support, and self-help recommendations. The website has a link to make immediate contact with someone to talk, if needed.

OPERATIONS: We strongly recommend developing better relationships with your local fire departments to coordinate planning, training, and response capabilities. Our focus on this request today is in reference to hazardous materials responses. This doesn't catch any of us by surprise when we deal with large scale industrial or transportation incidents. However, we continue to find opportunities for improvement with small scale, yet dangerous situations. Small scale incidents like improperly mixing household chemicals or exposure to commercial weed killer or pesticides.

ALS: There are two protocol changes that all ALS personnel need to know.

- The minimum required amount of Etomidate to stock on an ALS vehicle has been lowered from (3) 20mg vials to (2) 20mg vials.
- The dosing of adult Sodium Bicarbonate has been changed from 1mEq/Kg to 0.5mEq/Kg.

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

Sept 03: Labor Day

Sept 13: SIREMS Triage Tag Day

Sept 27: Joint IDPH EMS and Trauma Advisory Councils, video conf. IDPH Marion

TIP OF THE MONTH: This is usually the area we try to give you a nugget of knowledge, a friendly reminder, or a piece of information that will make your job easier. This time, we want to make sure you know the contribution and the difference you are making in your communities. Those of us in EMS make up the medical safety net for society. EMS personnel are the ones trusted to respond to times of pain and sorrow to make things better. We wanted to remind each and every one of you how vitally important you are to the people of Southern Illinois. The EMS Office thanks you!

If you have any questions or information for "The Monitor", please contact me at Brad.Robinson@sih.net or SouthernIllinoisRegionalEMS@gmail.com (09-02-18).