



The Monitor

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

February 2017

COMMAND: Dr. Haake wants to remind everyone to be mindful of hypothermia. With the extreme variations in temperatures this winter, people may be less prepared from day to day or hour to hour.

FINANCE: We have been informed that both applications from Region 5 have been approved. Congratulations to Brookport Fire Department and SIH Disaster Preparedness Office First Responders.

LOGISTICS: For the BLS services that want to transition from Epi Pen auto injectors to epinephrine intramuscular injections from a vial, the training is now available. Cambria Fire Department is the first BLS service in our system to complete the training.

Reminder of the new state CEU guidelines and the renewal worksheets on the system's website. Please look at your CEUs early and keep track of them throughout your license period. The EMS Office has experienced many renewals since January 1st where there have been plenty of hours, but not in all the right categories. Use the renewal worksheets to verify your hours in the required topics. If you have any questions, please contact the EMS Office.

OPERATIONS: Are you still asking travel questions to your patients? The MERS, Zika, and Ebola scares have subsided, but it is still a very good idea to ask your patients about recent travel within the continental U.S. or abroad. There are ever evolving medical concerns throughout the world and recent travel may be the clue necessary for appropriate treatment.

Don't forget, we are mandated reporters. Here's a reminder of who to call for what situation.

Suspected Geriatric Abuse and Neglect from healthcare facilities should call the 24 hour Central Compliance Registry Hotline, 1-800-252-4343

Suspected Geriatric Abuse and Neglect from private residences should call the Illinois Department of Aging, 1-800-252-8966. After hours calls should go to local law enforcement.

Suspected Mental or Developmentally Disabled Abuse and Neglect in independent living or home environments should call the Illinois Department of Human Services, 1-800-843-6154.

Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect should call the Department of Children and Family Services Hotline, 1-800-25-ABUSE.

Simply reporting your suspicions to the receiving nurse does not satisfy the requirements of being a mandated reporter in Illinois.

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

- Feb 13: SIREMS Triage Tag Day
- Feb 14: Valentine's Day
- Feb 16: EMS Winter Workshop, Union County Ambulance
- Feb 20: President's Day
- Feb 28: Southern Illinois Opioid Strategic Planning Meeting, JALC

TIP OF THE MONTH: When controlling bleeding, take the term "direct pressure" literally. Do not be meek about it...apply pressure to stop bleeding!! When direct pressure is not adequately controlling an active bleed in an extremity, use a tourniquet sooner rather than later.

If you have any questions or information for "The Monitor", please contact me at Brad.Robinson@sih.net or SouthernIllinoisRegionalEMS@gmail.com (02-09-17).