



# *The Monitor*

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

February 2016

**COMMAND:** Dr. Haake and staff of the EMS Office are optimistic! Punxsutawney Phil did not see his shadow, so spring should be right around the corner.

**FINANCE:** The 2017 EMS Assistance Grant application period should be open any day now. If you have registered in the EGRAMS system and applied for this grant before, you should be notified of the opening of the application period by email. You can get more information on the EMS Assistance Grant by visiting [dph.illinois.gov](http://dph.illinois.gov)

**LOGISTICS:** Non Transport Departments: The annual inspections are due March 31, 2016. First Responder non transport agencies can self inspect but the non transport agencies that are Intermediate or Paramedic level must be inspected by someone from the EMS Office. Please contact the EMS Office to schedule inspections, get inspection forms, or with any questions.

AHA Credentials like CPR, ACLS, and PALS are becoming harder to obtain. At the beginning of the year, Rend Lake College began charging tuition for AHA classes. Also, for many EMS Personnel in the SIREMS system, they will be charged out of district tuition rates by Rend Lake College because of their address. SIH has been working to help accommodate more EMS Personnel in their classes, but this has not always been easy because of high enrollment and a lack of instructors. Please be mindful of the limited amount of classes as your credentials move closer to expiration. Don't wait until the last minute to renew, you may not be able to find a class.

Don't forget to register for the Ebola/Infectious Disease Seminar at John A. Logan College on February 17, 2016. Our EMS System is working with Franklin-Williamson Bi-County Health Department to host the event. The program will have information for all levels of EMS Personnel and EMS Management. The seminar will have three areas of focus. The first will be a subject matter expert on Ebola, speaking on the physiological specifics of Ebola. The next speaker is from OSHA and they will discuss employer and employee requirements like N95 masks, fit testing, respiratory protection medical screenings, exposure control plans, PPE, and more. The last of the three is a Paramedic from Champaign that transported a patient under investigation for Ebola. He will be talking about the real world before, during, and after of the Ebola transport.

**OPERATIONS:** The protocol revisions have been approved by IDPH and West Frankfort Fire Department Paramedics will soon be training on drug assisted intubation. Dr. Haake has created new treatment protocols for drug assisted intubation and WFFD will be hosting a pilot program for their implementation into SIREMS. The new protocols and pilot program will be using benzocaine spray, Midazolam, and Etomidate to facilitate difficult intubations. When the pilot produces enough data to show the benefits of this advanced procedure outweigh the risks, it will be rolled out to the remaining ALS services within SIREMS. Contact the EMS Office with any questions.

There are new and updated protocols that were approved along with the drug assisted intubation materials. The following, either created or updated protocols, were also recently approved by IDPH and will be updated on our website this coming week.

- BB-01 Medications Stocked in Each Ambulance
- II-17 Adult Endotracheal Intubation
- II-38 Endotracheal Tube Introducer Bougie
- II-39 Drug Assisted Intubation
- II-40 King LTSD Airway
- II-41 CAT Tourniquet
- JJ-30 Benzocaine Spray
- JJ-31 Etomidate
- JJ-32 Midazolam

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

February 13:	SIREMS Triage Tag Day
February 14:	Valentine's Day
February 15:	President's Day
February 17:	Ebola-Infectious Disease Workshop, JALC

*TIP OF THE MONTH:* Consider becoming a member of the Shawnee Preparedness and Response Coalition. This is a regional community coalition with a mission to develop and maintain an integrated, diverse network of organizations in Southern Illinois in order to increase Planning, Mitigation, Response, Recovery and overall Resiliency in the event of a natural or manmade disaster. This coalition and its members would benefit from more EMS involvement and it is a great means to professionally network and learn.  
[www.shawneepreparednesscoalition.com](http://www.shawneepreparednesscoalition.com)

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