



Tales of the East

December 2007

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MIDSTATE
INFORMATION
&
Important Dates

2007 Midstate Awards Banquet

Twin Ponds Golf and Country Club
May 16, 2008

It is not too early to send in your 2007 award nominations. Go to the NYS DOH website: <http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/ems/main.htm> for all the award criteria and an application. Nominations must be in our office no later than April 30, Regional winners will be submitted to the NYS DOH for consideration for the state awards.

Midstate EMS
Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare
2521 Sunset Ave
Utica, NY 13502

What is going on?

The State Emergency Medical Services Council (SEMSCO) in Albany on Dec 11&12. Here are some of the issues discussed of local interest.

- **Waveform Capnography will be mandatory for all intubated non arrested patients by Jan 1 2009.**
- **A letter of support will be sent to the Commissioner of Health in support of allowing the Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (MOLST) form by EMS Providers.**
- **The Department Of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services has received notification from NYS Supreme Court it has dismissed the City of Utica's action against the DOH and Midstate REMSCO. The city must proceed with its application to continue ambulance service.**
- **All SEMSCO Committees have included EMS safety in every plan, policy or discussion, the plan statewide is to institute a "culture of safety" a special committee is looking at MVA's, provider restraint systems, Priority Dispatch, moving and lifting injuries as well as provider fatigue.**
- **Regions, Program Agencies and the Bureau are reviewing electronic PCR systems.**
- **During the months of March, April & May 2008 the Air Medical TAG will be looking at helicopter utilizations statewide.**
- **Statewide the Hospital Oversight Committee is looking at hospital overcrowding resulting in slow turnaround times for EMS.**

EMS Up Coming Classes

EMT Original and Refresher	Stittville Fire Station	Jan 3-May 15 1800-2130	Tues, Thurs, occasional Sat
EMT Original and Refresher	Kunkel Ambulance	Jan 7- May 15 1830-2130	Mon. Thurs. occasional Sat
EMT Original and Refresher	Ilion Medial Office	Jan 5-June 19 Daytime 8-4	Saturdays
EMT Original and Refresher	Ilion Medical Office	Jan 9 - June 19 1800-2200	Mon and Wed
EMT Original and Refresher	Hamilton College	Jan 22-May15 1830-2200	Mon. Thurs. occasional Sat
EMT Original and Refresher	Oriskany Falls Fire	Jan 27-May15 0800-1600	Sundays
CME Basic	EMS Training Center	Jan 9- Mar 19 1730-2130	Wednesday
CME Basic	EMS Training Center	April 2-June 11 1730-2130	Wednesday

**Register online @ midstateems.org or call
Linda 624-4539**

EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCH RESPONSE

Midstate EMS Agencies will soon receive priority response information when dispatched to a medical emergency. The EMD dispatcher will include a recommended response with each EMS call, information obtained from the caller is used to provide; pre-arrival instructions (as needed), and type of response. **Priority One** requires a rapid response (either a life threat or unknown situation) a **Priority Two** will indicate no life threat is present and a normal traffic response is indicated. EMD trained dispatchers using a Midstate REMAC Approved EMD program will use "flip cards" to instruct callers prior to EMS arrival and update responders as additional information about the call becomes available. Dr. DeTraglia believes this will allow for safer EMS responses without impacting patient care and fits into the "culture of safety"; both the SEMAC and DOH are attempting to create in New York State.

NYS Ambulance Crashes

Hudson Valley EMS providers mourn the loss of a young EMT killed last month while in the back of an ambulance that hit a tree.

A North Country Ambulance crash killed the patient and has left the EMT in serious condition

HELP US!

At any given time there are many interesting and important things happening in our world of EMS. We often hear from you "I did not know that was going on". We are always looking for ways to get the message out to the Providers. We use the Midstate web site, this newsletter, County and CQI meetings and Web casting of the REMSCO and REMAC meetings as a forum. We would like to e mail the information including this newsletter to anyone who sends us their e mail address. Just sign up at the website midstateems.org

3rd Quarter 2007 NYS PAD Stats

- 4,592 Agencies
 - 20,534 AED Units
 - 5 Discharged Patients
- 46 Defibrillated*
149,000 Trained Providers

REMAC NEWS

The REMAC is responsible for the pre-hospital care provided in the Midstate Region.

The Midstate Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee discussed the use of C-PAP in the pre-hospital setting at the November 27, meeting. The REMAC Protocol Committee will review the use of C-PAP and report at the January Meeting. At the same meeting the REMAC has approved the use of QuikClot to control traumatic bleeding. (see Midstate Policy 07-02). This product is not required and may be used by both BLS and ALS Agencies.

Fentanyl has been approved for pre-hospital use of pain management by the SEMAC, pending local REMAC approval, this has been sent to the protocol committee for review as well.

NYS TAX CREDIT

Volunteer Firefighters and EMS Providers may be eligible for a NYS Income Tax credit, use form IT-245 when filing your 2007 NYS Income taxes.

Midstate RESOURCE Report Sept & Oct 07

- 5,712 Calls
- 2,603 ALS
- 184 941/955's (Involuntary MHL's)
- 154 941's transported by EMS
- 30 941's transported by Law Enforcement

Monthly CPR Classes

American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR is offered the 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month at the Faxton-St. Luke's EMS Training Center; Classes start at 6PM register online or call Dave Ronan at 624-4508.

International EMS Competition/Road Rally

EMS GLOBAL INC, founder Dr. Richard Chmielewski announced today Utica will host a road rally EMS competition patterned after a similar international event held yearly in Poland. The event is scheduled for August 1 and 2, 2008.

EMS GLOBAL INC is looking for corporate sponsorship of this event, which is expected to grow in size and popularity in the coming years, as it has in Europe. Dr. Chmielewski and EMS GLOBAL Education Coordinator David Ronan, and Paramedics William Stubba and William Gamba attended a Polish competition in 2005, near Krakow. In 2007 the organization sent paramedics from the Utica Fire Department to participate in the road rally EMS competition in September 2007 in the city of Olsztyn, Poland. Firefighters Rick Irizarry and Phil Taurisano were thrilled to participate in this grueling, gut wrenching, exacting event, pitting their skills against 85 ambulance teams from all over the world. That U.S. contingent, which included David Ronan, came in First in their International Division, and 46th overall. Polish paramedic, Michal Starosolski, the event coordinator, came to Utica in October, 2007 and presented their trophy to them at a Utica Common Council meeting.

The competition involves a road rally, with directions for the drivers, but no final addresses. There will be five scenarios, with judges present at each station who tally up scores based on speed, accuracy and competency, and international guidelines of resuscitation and stabilization of emergency victims. The scenarios will include trauma reenactments, near fatal unstable cardiac events, multiple casualty scenarios, and more. There will be one night time station with the other four occurring in daylight.

The winning paramedic group from the 2008 US competition will win free round trip flights and accommodations to Poland, to compete in the International Ambulance Competition, held in Poland, in late September 2008.

For additional information contact Dr. Chmielewski by email at Wfalcon@aol.com or David Ronan at dronan2@juno.com

SAVE THE DATE!

Midstate EMS Banquet May 16 ~ Twin Ponds Golf Country Club
America's Greatest Heart Run and Walk ~ March 8.

St. Elizabeth Trauma Service TRAUMA DAY ~ June 6
Boilermaker Road Race ~ July 13

FUNCMES.org

The Midstate REMSCO and Faxton - St. Luke's EMS Program Agency have collaborated with the CNY EMS, North Country, Susquehanna, Finger Lakes and Monroe Livingston Programs to produce a EMS web site intended to provide information and education to the providers in our regions. Midstate Providers are encouraged to visit, watch the video or slide show, download and complete the CME exam and fax it to Chris at 315 738-8981 for Continuing Education Credit (CME's). Chris will email or fax you a completion certificate and credit the CME's to you. Currently two programs are available; EMS-CQI a web cast of NYS Operations Director Lee Burns discussing Quality Assurance and EMS, the second is a Power Point presentation on Ambulance Safety (in keeping with the EMS Culture of Safety).

Upcoming Regional Meetings

REMSCO Meeting	January 22	EMS Training Center
REMAC Meeting	February 26	EMS Training Center
Oneida Co EMS	March 18	Oriskany Fire Dept
Madison Co. EMS	March 19	Oneida Healthcare
Herkimer Co. EMS	March 20	Herkimer Co 911

DUAL LUMEN AIRWAY

The Dual Lumen Airway is a good back up device for those occasions when endotracheal tube placement is not possible. When placed so the distal tube is in the posterior pharynx. Air enters the trachea because the inflate cuffs do not allow it to go anywhere else. This tube should not be used for administration of meds because they will land in the posterior pharynx and not directly into the lungs for absorption.

Judge rules in favor of MIDSTATE REMSCO and Department of Health on Utica Ambulance Certification Process

The City of Utica began operating ambulances under a municipal Certificate Of Need (CON) requested in 2005. In January of 2007, the City applied to the Midstate REMSCO for certification. After the application was submitted "The City of Utica argued that Public Health Law (PHL) does not contain any requirement that a municipality ambulance service submit to a public need determination after the initial two years of operation. the case brought against RICHARD DAINES, M.D. NYSDOH, and the Midstate REMSCO was reviewed by New York State Supreme Court Judge Roger D. McDonough who made a determination in favor of the DOH and Midstate REMSCO. The process of obtaining the certificate of need, including a public need determination will continue.

ALS INTERCEPT STUDY COMPLETE

October 28 - November 11, 2007				
	Total EMS Responses		ALS Intercepts	
Madison Co.	211	24.7%	4	22%
Herkimer Co.	270	31.6%	10	55%
Oneida Co	<u>373</u>	43.6%	<u>4</u>	22%
	854		18	2%
<u>Call Type:</u>				
	Illness	94%	Injury	6%
<u>Time of Day:</u>				
	0000-0600	33%	0601-1200	1
	1201-1800	11%	1801-2359	
<u>38% Intercept Location:</u>				
	On Scene	44%		
	En-route	39%	Cancelled	16%
<u>Day of Week:</u>				
	Sunday	16%	Thursday	11%
	Monday	11%	Friday	36%
	Tuesday	22%	Saturday	5.5%
	Wednesday	5.5%		
<u>Chief Complaint (Patient):</u>				
	Breathing Problem	33%	Pain	11%
	Allergic Reaction	22%	Seizure	5.5%
	Chest Pain	11%	No Info	5.5%
	Dizzy/Weak	11%		
<u>Patient Outcomes:</u>				
	Admit	36%	Transfer	5.5%
	Treat/Release	36%	No Info	33%
<u>Destinations:</u>				
	Community Memorial	9%		
	Little Falls	9%		
	Faxton-St. Luke's	22%		
	SUNY-Upstate	5.5%		
	St. Elizabeth	29%		
	Basset	5.5%		
<u>ALS Interventions Performed</u>				
	I.V.	72%		
	Cardiac Monitor	63%		
	Blood Sugar	27%		
	Medication Adm.	36%		