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The BREMSS Bulletin

BREMSS will endeavor to provide a monthly e-mail bulletin to all of the EMS community in our seven county Region. It is our hope to increase the level of communications to and from the EMS community. Each of the BREMSS Staff will provide several paragraphs each month to the BREMSS Bulletin. We welcome your comments on any of the topics or if there are specific topics of presentation you would like us to address from a BREMSS Staff position.



The 1967 film **Cool Hand Luke** is famous for the line, "What we have here is a failure to communicate". It is frustrating when opportunities to work together as an EMS organization pass us by because of lack of communication. Even more frustrating is when a message of importance is not properly conveyed *by us* to the EMS community.

How can we, within the BREMSS region, communicate better with each other? According to Webster, communication is the act of transmitting, a giving or exchanging of information. In other words, communication needs to be a two-way street. Though the BREMSS website is a great way to post messages region-wide as well as relay training opportunities, few agencies ask us to do so. Exchanging information is not only convenient, but solidifies us as an EMS community eager to learn and grow. Blount County can learn from Chilton - who can learn from St. Clair - who can learn from Winston - and so on.

In turn, BREMSS does not always communicate as effectively with EMS providers as we should. So what changes need to be made? Consider how you, as an individual or organization, communicate most effectively. Should we take advantage of social media opportunities that are gaining in popularity, or should we simply make better use of our website?

Please let us hear your suggestions...by whatever means you communicate!

Any EMS personnel who works for a BREMSS provider or EMS dispatch agency are eligible for free CPR-HCP, PALS, and ACLS cards. The instructor must be affiliated with BREMSS.

We at ATCC retrieve times on each trauma, stroke and STEMI system patient. The purpose is so that we can provide the times for hospital registries as well as studies in BREMSS.

If a patient is in respiratory distress (non-trauma) do we always try CPAP before endotracheal intubation?

Question: What is neuro divert?
Answer: There is no such divert category. If a hospital requests you to divert because they are on neuro-divert—refer them to ATCC and continue transport to the patient requested or closest hospital.

Protocols
Dr. Campbell's protocol sub-committee will begin a protocol revision shortly to be presented to the SEMCC in June. If you have protocol suggestions, please e-mail Dr. Campbell at John.Campbell@adph.state.al.us.

STEMI Update
27 STEMI system patients
8 transport services on-line

March Stats:
Trauma—367
Stroke—195
STEMI—22

We welcome all EMS personnel to visit ATCC—just call and come see us and watch the systems work.

Clarification on Age of Refusal
A patient who is under 19 years of age can not refuse EMS care. Call OLMD if a patient under 19 is refusing care. Follow OLMD orders. Parents of the under-19-years-of-age patient that's refusing care can refuse for the underage patient.

[EMS Equipment Bid List](#)
The EMS Equipment Bid List is available at www.bremss.org. The contract can be used by any BREMSS EMS Provider throughout 2010 to purchase EMS equipment and supplies. Please call or e-mail with any questions.