

# CMH EMS Newsletter

January 11, 2021

## WEEKLY STATUS UPDATES

Sent: Dec 31<sup>st</sup> on SLACK

- We are very near making our bulk order of new disposable laryngoscope sets. The current sets will be used as a backup in ambulances.
- Be sure to have blankets and ice melt on each truck during winter weather.
- Remind your co-workers to get on Slack. Share your experience about getting a lot of info and have easy access to everyone in the department.
- The next life support competency is coming up Jan 19. If you need BLS, ACLS, or PALS, please sign up. Looking at my list, it looks like the following need to attend (or get me more recent certification cards) and have yet to sign up: Gregory Beydler, Jerry Daily, Cassandra Keller, James Pursselley.
- If you perform a treatment, please make sure it is documented in the flowchart and your interpretation is included somewhere. An example is capnography or ECG. Putting them on capnography and downloading the monitor does not tell us enough. Please include your interpretation of the treatment so we know what you were thinking on the call.
- We have several staff members in our department on quarantine right now and CMH is experiencing record numbers as well. Daily, we are used to hearing 30-ish new COVID positive tests but in the past two or three days, the number has been 60-ish COVID positive results every day. Continue to be vigilant wearing a mask if you are within six feet of another human.
- Our COVID protocol has not changed since July. Please review it (<http://ozarksems.com/protocol-2-330.php>) and continue to limit aerosolizing treatments. And ABSOLUTELY do the following:
  - Put a mask on every patient.
  - Do not perform any airway or ventilation treatment while in the hallway in a hospital. Do them in a patient room or in your ambulance.

### CMH EMS Education Update

Come one come all, even if you are tall! Anyone is welcome to come to paramedic class, sit in, and listen in. You will receive CEUs for the hours you are in attendance, obviously you would need to be paying attention and not doing something else like completing a chart while in class.

Also, start reviewing your **STEMI knowledge** as our next competency will be over STEMI interpretation and management.

Brice Flynn  
EMT-P, I/C, BA  
EMS Education Coordinator

## Message from Tom Ryan, Regional Manager Polk and Stockton

With winter quickly approaching, now we need to make sure we all have extra Thermal blankets (like five or more) on our trucks. Don't forget to make sure we have extra **Heat Packs**. And when I say extra - NOT two but six to eight of these! And *please* make sure the IV warmers are plugged in, turned "ON", stocked and you have a towel over these to keep the warmth in. I have looked at several trucks and have not found a towel over the IV fluids. So, I put one on them just to come back later and see it's been removed!!

Sent: Jan 7<sup>th</sup> on SLACK

- Hospital admin contacted us to tell us some of our last year capital budget requests are probably going to be approved. Still a huge "PROBABLY" in that sentence, but looking at one power cot in Bolivar, one LP15 in Osceola, and some radio system improvements. Stand by for more info as we get things finalized.
- We made some changes to the Field Training Officer program. Instead of everyone having different expiration dates for different FTO requirements, we are going to identify the list of FTOs each January that will be valid for the entire calendar year. Give the managers a couple weeks to get everyone lined out with their requirements and we will announce the list for 2021.
- We continue to work on making dual oxygen tanks work on all our ambulances. Trial in progress. As soon as we know what we need to purchase for all the trucks, we will start making it happen.
- Managers are going to start working on bolstering our PRN pool by doing some interviews for PRN EMTs.
- We continue to work through preliminary request stuff to add an additional ambulance to the fleet. Planning on presenting to the Feb board meeting.
- Fleet services is going to work on increasing the mileage between oil changes to 5,000 miles so our vehicles aren't in the shop as often.
- The topic has been changed for the Feb competencies. We pushed back the in-depth ventilator topic due to we probably still won't have the new vents and circuits delivered by then. The topic will be **STEMI identification and management**

**Think you don't need a Flu and COVID-19 shot? Here are 5 reasons to change your mind. Get the Shot**

**#1 – You are vulnerable being in EMS. Get the shot**

**#2 – Getting a Flu shot and COVID-19 shot is your civic duty working in EMS and around people, Get the shot**

**#3 – You can still get the flu and COVID-19, yes but you won't be as sick. Get the shot**

**#4 – Pregnant women who get the Flu and COVID-19 shot will help protect their baby. Get the shot**

**#5 – You cannot get Flu or COVID from the vaccines. Get the shot.**

**I can think of thousands of reasons why to get the shot, but none to NOT get it. So GET THE SHOT!**

While in a meeting with Dr. Nicholes, someone asked for him to give five reasons TO GET the COVID vaccine and five reasons to NOT GET the vaccine. Here were his responses (paraphrased):

Reasons **TO GET** vaccinated:

- 1) It keeps you from getting COVID.
- 2) It keeps you from dying of COVID.
- 3) It keeps your lung tissue working.
- 4) It is the right thing to do for everyone, especially healthcare professionals.
- 5) It is probably the safest and cleanest vaccine humanity has ever made.

Reasons to **NOT GET** vaccinated:

- 1) None, just do it.
- 2) Zero evidence of serious side effects.
- 3) I can't think of anything else, just get the damn vaccine.

UV lights are available in multiple stations. Be sure to be regularly using it in your ambulances and around the station.

After transport of a COVID-19 patient, use it to disinfect the truck.

1. Using the D clip, hang the UV-C unit from the handrail.
2. Plug the unit into one of the outlets in the truck. Make sure the shore line is plugged in on the truck.
3. The display will light up. Choose an appropriate amount for delay time. This will give you time to get out of the truck before the disinfecting will begin. Click Set.
4. Then the run time will appear. 20 minutes should be effective. Click Set.
5. Then press START.
6. Hang the DO NOT ENTER sign on the truck.

The "glow" of the working unit can be seen from the windows of the truck. Do NOT go inside while it is working.

Place any additional items you want disinfected in the patient care area. Some people lay their shirt and jacket on the bench seat as well (assuming you are wearing an undershirt!!)



## Upcoming Events

### DAILY SHIFT HUDDLE 845am daily

CMH Paramedic Class:

Patient Assessment Jan 11th

### El Dorado Springs Staff Meeting Jan 12<sup>th</sup>

CMH Paramedic Class:

Patient Assessment Pt. 2 Jan 14<sup>th</sup>

CMH Paramedic Class:

Medical Terminology Jan 18th

### Life Support Competency Jan 19<sup>th</sup>

### Polk Co. A Week Staff Meeting Jan 19<sup>th</sup>

CMH Paramedic Class:

Pharmacology Pt. 1 Jan 21<sup>st</sup>

CMH Paramedic Class:

Pharmacology Pt. 2 Jan 25th

### Hickory Co Staff Meeting Jan 26<sup>th</sup>

CMH Paramedic Class:

Medication Admin. Pt. 1 Jan 28th

## Upcoming Birthdays Recent Service Anniversaries

Allen Werner Jan. 10

John Wright Jan. 15

Tim Bradley Jan. 31

Missi Painter 7 years

Lucky Johnson 3 years

Allen Werner 3 years

Travis Neher 1 year

**Please do not switch cots from ambulance to ambulance. Some cots are only safe in certain ambulances.**

The Missouri Department of Public Safety and Missouri Medal of Valor Review Board are inviting all first responders, which includes EMS personnel to nominate heroic and lifesaving work **performed during 2020** for the three Missouri Public Safety Medals – Medal of Valor, Governor's Medal (team award) and Public Safety Civilian Partnership Award (civilians assisting first responders). **Two key items: the deadline for submissions in Feb. 28, 2021 and the link to the nomination forms is <http://dps.mo.gov/medal/>.**

As is the case each year, there were some extremely valorous act performed by first responders in Missouri in 2020. We would very much like to see the personnel who were involved recognized for their heroism.



**Reeva Bishop & Amanda Chism:** Thank you for coming in to help with all the LDT's we had pending!! Polk Co Night Crew

**Reeva Bishop:** Thanks for coming over to Stockton and picking up a shift on your day off to help out an employee that became sick. Tom Ryan & Stockton Crews

**Eric Schmidt:** Thank you for coming in to help New Year's weekend by filling the open shifts!!

**John Wright:** Thanks for coming to Stockton and picking up open shifts in Stockton from Eldorado Springs that became open due to illness

**Greg Beydler:** Thanks for picking up open shifts in Eldorado Springs so John could work open Stockton shifts.

**Logan Thomas & Jerry Daily:** They both started in the 2021 CMH Paramedic class last week! Good Luck!!