

For All Emergency Medical Clinicians

Vol. 47, No.1 January 2021

## **CRT and EMT COVID-19 Vaccinators**

#### VACCINATION IS AN ESSENTIAL STEP

to saving lives during the current COVID-19 pandemic. Given the anticipated increased demand for vaccination throughout Maryland, MIEMSS has expanded the number of EMS clinicians available to administer the COVID-19 vaccine to include cardiac rescue technicians (CRTs) and emergency medical technicians (EMTs). CRTs do not require any additional training; the requirements below apply to EMTs.

- An EMT may administer CO-VID-19 vaccine to any patient if all of the following criteria have been met:
- EMT has completed MIEMSS didactic vaccination training;
- EMT has completed a vaccination skills competency evaluation and has been approved by EMSOP and medical director in the MIEMSS licensure system; and
- A physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, nurse, or paramedic physically supervises the EMT while administering the vaccine. A maximum of three EMTs may be assigned to any one supervisor at a time.



▲ Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS) career and volunteer paramedics working with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services staffing a COVID-19 vaccination POD at the White Oak Community Center. (Photo courtesy of MCFRS.)

After completion of didactic and practical training, the EMT needs to submit an application on the MIEMSS licensure website (www.miemsslicense.com). This application will be approved by the EMSOP with verification that shows successful completion of training and competency in the safe administration of an intramuscular injection.

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# **Destination for Adult Acute Stroke Patients with LAMS 4 or Greater**

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY,** stroke patients who meet all of the following criteria should be transported to a Comprehensive Stroke Center or a thrombectomy-capable Primary Stroke Center, if one is available within 30 minutes by ground transport:

- Adult acute stroke patients (>18 years of age), AND
- Positive Cincinnati Stroke Scale or positive Posterior Cerebellar Assessment, AND
- Los Angeles Motor Scale (LAMS) score of 4 or greater, AND
- Patient can be delivered to the hospital within 22 hours of last time known well.

If the transport time to a Comprehensive Stroke Center or a throm-

bectomy-capable Primary Stroke Center exceeds 30 minutes by ground transport, the patient should be transported to the closest designated Acute Stroke Ready or Primary Stroke Center. If there is not a stroke center with 30 minutes, the patient should be transported to the nearest hospital.

The Baltimore City LAMS Research Protocol has concluded. MIEMSS would like to thank Dr. Victor C. Urrutia's research team, collaborating stroke centers and EMS operational programs for helping us to understand the best destination for patients with suspected large vessel occlusion strokes. For these patients with a LAMS score of 4 or greater, direct transport to a stroke

center with thrombectomy capability provided a reduced time to clot retrieval procedure with minimal delay in the administration of the clot-busting medication, tPA, when appropriate.

Comprehensive Stroke Centers include: University of Maryland Medical Center, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center.

Primary Stroke Centers that have indicated thrombectomy capability on a 24/7/365 basis include: Shady Grove Medical Center (Adventist), Sinai Hospital (LifeBridge), Peninsula Regional Medical Center (TidalHealth), and Suburban Hospital (JHM).

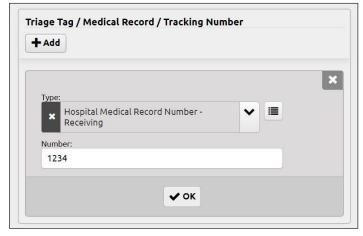
## CARES Corner

THE MEDICAL RECORD NUMBER at the hospital that is recorded in the data element "Triage Tag/Medical Record/Tracking Number" in the PCR Report will now be included in the auto-post of the out-of-hospital cardiac arrest records to the CARES database for patients that are transported to the hospital.

In the Dispatch tab, CAD subtab:

- Select "Hospital Medical Record Number Receiving" in "Type" in "Triage Tag/Medical Record/Tracking Number"
- Add the medical record number at the hospital in "Number" in the PCR report for every patient that is transported (see picture above).

The MRN must be entered into this data element to be auto-posted to CARES. The MRN number is critical, especially when searching for the outcome for a patient that is brought to the hospital as a John/Jane Doe.





### Welcome to

## A Winter of Winterfest EMS 2021

The Winterfest Committee is always looking for exciting new ideas, \* and Winterfest EMS 2021 will be no exception!

This year, we will be offering **2** EMT Skills Refresher classes, PEPP 4<sup>th</sup> Edition Hybrid Course, and over 12 hours of exciting FREE online continuing education for a limited time, accessed through the MIEMSS Online Training Center (https://www.emsonlinetraining.org/). If you complete all 12 hours of online content, and complete a Maryland 12-hour EMT Skills Refresher class, you will meet your 24 hours required for recertification as an EMT.

Exciting topics and speakers include Dr. Ted Delbridge presenting "Maryland EMS in a Pandemic Vortex", Dr. Ben Lawner discussing "Trauma Resuscitation", Dr. Jennifer Anders and Dr. Jenny Guyther discussing "Best Practices in Spinal Protection and Safe Transport for Children", and more! Log into the MIEMSS Online Training Center and select the Course Category "A Winter of Winterfest EMS 2021 Conference".

#### **PRECONFERENCES**

Registration Required; Basic PPE Required (Face Mask and Eye Protection)

EMT-B 12-Hour Skills Refresher - Combination of online and in person

Fee: \$75

Location: Easton Volunteer Fire Department

315 Leonard Rieck Drive (formerly Aurora Park Drive), Easton, MD 21601

A 12-hour skills class will be divided into 4 hours of virtual instruction, followed by 8 hours of skills in person. Space is limited, register early!!

Please note: You MUST have access to a computer with reliable internet access during the virtual (online conference) portion of the course AND be able to access the MIEMSS Online Training Center to complete the protocol quiz following the live virtual session.

Dates/Times: Live virtual instruction requires you to log in for the session for the entire time.

Session 1 (registration deadline: February 5): Friday, February 19, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM (virtual)

Friday, February 26, 8:00 AM (in person)

Session 2 (registration deadline: March 5): Friday, March 19, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM (virtual)

Friday, March 26, 8:00 AM (in person)

### PEPP 4<sup>th</sup> Edition Hybrid Course

Fee: \$50 Location: TBA

Dates/Times: Friday, March 26, 8:00 AM (registration deadline: March 5)

Announcing a new and improved Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP-4) Course! The PEPP-4 Hybrid Course features an all-new lecture on Behavioral Emergencies, role-play activities and learning games, such as matching and trivia, along with updated case-based lectures, videos, hands-on skill stations, and small group discussions. The PEPP-4 Hybrid Course is designed by the American Academy of Pediatrics specifically for both ALS and BLS clinicians with a focus on assessment and management of ill or injured children. Maryland EMS for Children has added additional scenarios and special equipment to correlate with EMS Scope of Practice in Maryland. BLS participants will complete 10.25 hours of online learning prior to attending the one-day onsite portion. ALS participants will complete 11.75 hours of online learning prior to attending the one-day onsite portion. Participants will qualify to receive an AAP course completion card by participating in both the online and onsite portions of the course and successfully completing a written test. *Credit Hours: BLS - 15 hours; ALS - 18.75 hours. Required - online learning must be completed prior to attending the course. Textbook will be mailed with online access code after payment has been received.* 



## A Winter of Winterfest EMS 2021

#### Location:

The EMT Skills Refresher will be held at the Easton Volunteer Fire Department:

#### **Easton Volunteer Fire Department**

315 Leonard Rieck Drive (formerly Aurora Park Drive) Easton, MD 21601

The PEPP Preconference location in Easton will be determined, and registered students will be notified of the location in a confirmation letter sent with the PEPP textbook.

#### Payment and Cancellation Policy:

Preregistration is required for both of the preconferences as space is extremely limited. Walk-in registrations will not be allowed. In the event that payment is not readily available from the registrant's department, registration forms must be submitted with a letter of intent to pay on department letterhead. Otherwise, payment of all fees must be included with preregistration. All students must be paid for in full prior to your in-person class. There is a \$25 fee for bad checks. Any student with an outstanding balance from any previous Winterfest will not be allowed to participate until their account is paid in full. All requests for cancellations must be made in writing and either emailed to winterfest@talbotdes.org or mailed to:

Winterfest EMS C/O Talbot Co. DES 29041 Corkran Rd. Easton, MD 21601

There is a \$10.00 processing fee for refunds. Speakers and topics are subject to change.

#### **Confirmations:**

Registration confirmations will be sent via email to the address provided on the registration form, along with any necessary instructions for the preconferences. Lunch will be provided for the preconferences; further information will be sent with the confirmation.

#### Weather Cancellation:

The Conference Planning Committee will make a decision about cancellation of Winterfest EMS due to severe weather by 12 Noon on February 24. Call Talbot County DES at (410) 820-8311 for details. Written requests for refunds will be accepted within 30 days of cancellation.

#### Information:

For additional information or registration confirmations, call TCDES at (410) 820-8311, email us at <a href="winterfest@talbotdes.org">winterfest@talbotdes.org</a>, or contact us through Facebook. The Winterfest EMS Committee is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in the conference. If you require additional assistance, please call the Winterfest EMS Committee.



## A Winter of Winterfest EMS 2021

## A Winter of Winterfest EMS 2021 Registration

Name:	
Mailing Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	
Email (required):	
Clinician #:	
Primary Affiliation:	
Expiration Date:	Are you currently on extension? Yes / No
Certification/Licensure (Circle): EMR EMD EMT CR	RT Paramedic LPN RN NP PA MD
Preconferences:	
EMT Skills Refresher	\$75
Session 1 (registration deadline: February 5):	
Friday, February 19, 6:00 PM (virtual)	
Friday, February 26, 8:00 AM (in person)	
Session 2 (registration deadline: March 5):	
Friday, March 19, 6:00 PM (virtual)	
Friday, March 26, 8:00 AM (in person)	
PEPP 4 <sup>th</sup> Edition Hybrid Course	\$50
Friday March 26, 8:00 AM (registration deadline: March 26, 8:00 AM)	arch 5)

Make checks payable to Winterfest EMS. Send check with this registration form to Winterfest EMS, C/O Talbot Co. DES, 29041 Corkran Rd., Easton, MD 21601. If payment is not readily available from the registrant's department, registration forms must be submitted with a letter of intent to pay on department letterhead.

## MIH Receives CRISP 2020 Patty Brown Innovation Award

THE CHESAPEAKE REGIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR OUR PATIENTS (CRISP) recently presented the 2020 Patty Brown Innovation Award to the Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) program, a joint partnership between the Baltimore City Fire Department (BCFD), the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC), and the University of Maryland, Baltimore. The MIH program provides community paramedicine to the residents of West Baltimore.

The CRISP Patty Brown Innovation Award recognizes an individual or team that contributes to advancing healthcare in Maryland. Recipients of this award demonstrate innovation in how they engage and collaborate with people and organizations across the healthcare continuum to support better health outcomes for patients and their communities.

The MIH program utilizes a multidisciplinary team to address barriers in patient care. The MIH program is comprised of two subprograms, the Minor Definitive Care Now (MDCN) and the Transitional Health Support (THS), which together help reduce re-admissions, address social factors of health, and decrease emergency department visits. The program also ensures that appropriate healthcare is accessible in vulnerable communities. The MDCN sub-program has reimagined the normal 9-1-1 response by offering patients alternative options such as on-scene evaluations and treatment, as well as transport to alternative care designations.

The MDCN team is comprised of BCFD paramedics and UMMC clinicians who work collaboratively to deliver effective care to patients in the community. As of June 2020, MDCN has provided definitive on-scene care or transport to more than 330 patients. This has helped patients to receive care while avoiding ambulance transports and unnecessary trips to the emergency department.

The THS sub-program relies on a community of paramedics to perform in-home visits that address medical issues, psychosocial needs, and other barriers to care once a patient has been discharged. The THS team has performed home visits for over 700 patients and has maintained an average patient satisfaction score of 9.8 out of 10.

### NHTSA EMS Office Recognized by U.S. DOT Secretary

FORMER U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANS-PORTATION ELAINE CHAO recognized the EMS Office for their dedicated work. The Secretary honored the leaders of NHTSA's Office of EMS for the department's response to the COVID-19 health emergency with a gold medal for outstanding achievement, including Jon Krohmer, MD, director of the NHTSA Office of EMS. Dr. Krohmer has served as Team Lead for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)/FEMA COVID-19 Healthcare Resilience Working Group (HRWG). He is also the Jurisdictional EMS Medical Director for Caroline County. Every member of the Office of EMS team has contributed tirelessly to the department's response and to the interagency COVID-19 Healthcare Resilience Working Group.

Former Secretary Chao also awarded Kate Elkins, MPH, CPH, NRP, CHES, the Secretary's Excellence Award for her dedication to improving emergency services. The Secretary's Excellence Award is granted to federal employees who have achieved outstanding performance in all aspects of their work and deserve special commendation.

An EMS specialist for NHTSA's Office of EMS, Kate received the honor for her commitment to making a positive impact on EMS and 9-1-1 systems. From overseeing the allocation of \$109 million in federal 9-1-1 grants to collaborating with federal colleagues and increasing awareness about mental health and suicide in public safety, she approaches her work with enthusiasm and passion. In her tireless efforts in advocating for EMS clinicians and 9-1-1 telecommunicators, Kate has provided

countless hours of her time, expertise, and experience in doing what she does best—helping others.

Most recently, Kate has focused on efforts to improve the EMS pandemic response, serving as the deputy team lead of the Prehospital (EMS/9-1-1) Team as part of the HHS/FEMA COV-ID-19 HRWG. During this time, she has continued to serve her local community as a paramedic, chief officer, and EMS and public health educator. Kate is EMS Captain and a life member of the Wheaton Volunteer Rescue Squad, a life member of the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department, and a Medical Specialist with Maryland Taskforce 1 FEMA National Urban Search and Rescue.

"Both my individual award and the team gold medal award were the direct result of Dr. Krohmer's excellent leadership," said Kate.



## CPS for Children

Child Passenger Safety and Occupant Protection Health Care Project

## **UPCOMING WEBINARS**

**FREE** webinar:

"Vehicle Occupant Kinematics, Case Studies, and Tips for First Responders at Crash Sites"



Friday, February 19, 2021 9:30 - 10:45 am (EST)



#### Speakers:

**Tracie Jones**, B.S.M.E, ACTAR, CPST, Rimkus Consulting Group Inc. **Justin Zimmerman**, CPST; Sergeant, Maryland State Police. CRASH Team

Join the Child Passenger Safety and Occupant Protection Health Care Project for "Vehicle Occupant Kinematics, Case Studies, and Tips for First Responders at Crash Sites", from 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. (EST) on Friday, February 19, 2021. This FREE webinar – featuring speakers Tracie Jones, BSME, ACTAR, CPST, Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc., and Justin Zimmerman, CPST, Sergeant, Maryland State Police, CRASH Team – is approved by Safe Kids Worldwide for one CEU towards CPST recertification and by MIEMSS for CEU credit for emergency medical clinicians. Register online at https://tinyurl.com/CrashSiteTips (Webinar ID 730-120-187). For more information, email cps@miemss.org or call 410-491-7803.

#### **FREE** webinar:

"Data collection methods & analysis for useful results in child passenger safety"





Adele Polson, CPST, Project Director, Westat

Jennifer Booge, CPST/I, Field Training Coordinator, National Digital Check Form

Maryland Kids in Safety Seats Staff

Join the Child Passenger Safety and Occupant Protection Health Care Project for "Data Collection Methods & Analysis for Useful Results in Child Passenger Safety", from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (EST) on Thursday, March 11, 2021. This FREE webinar – featuring speakers Adele Polson, CPST, Project Director, Westat, and Jennifer Booge, CPST/I, Field Training Coordinator, National Digital Check Form, as well as Maryland Kids in Safety Seats staff – is approved by Safe Kids Worldwide to offer 1.5 CEUs for CPSTs who participate. Register online at https://tinyurl.com/CPSwebinar11Mar2021, or for more info, email cps@miemss.org or call 410-706-8647.

# **2021 MSP Polar Bear Plunge Update**



#### WITH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

situation across the state, Special Olympics Maryland (SOMD) reassessed its plan for In-Person Plunges this year and made the difficult decision to not proceed with any In-Person Plunges as usual this coming January at Sandy Point State Park.

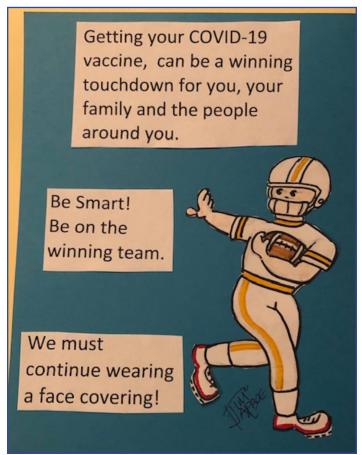
However, in an effort to keep this Maryland tradition alive, SOMD has decided to hold its first-ever Virtual Plunge and is encouraging individuals to participate! It is now easier than ever to be involved with the Polar Bear Plunge. No matter how someone plunges this year, their commitment to the Polar Bear Plunge will support the 8,716 Special Olympics Maryland athletes across the state. Individuals can sign up to participate either as an individual Plunger or start a team! To register, please go to https://bit.ly/3a7jAGl!

From social distancing and hand-washing to wearing a mask and getting the COVID-19 vaccine, stopping a pandemic requires using <u>ALL</u> the tools available.

Learn more at https://covidlink.maryland.gov.



Artwork courtesy of Jim Jarboe, a retired Montgomery County career firefighter and member for close to 65 years of the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, where he continues to volunteer.



MIEMSS, Maryland EMS News 653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536



Governor Larry Hogan
Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford

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(unless noted otherwise for specific photos)