

BUCKS COUNTY EMS NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2005

(PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER MONTH AND MAILED TO PROVIDERS)

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I would like to welcome the new EMTs into the Bucks County EHS System. Since January, we have had three (3) EMT classes complete their practical/written exams. Please take the time to welcome them into the system, show them the ropes, and teach them some of the things you have learned along the way. Our Bucks County EHS family is growing, and we are very proud of that statistic.

P.S. Have you done any con-ed yet this year? It is March already!!!!

COIC

While reviewing patient care reports, I have found that providers are not documenting their times for interventions. Providers are using one set time for all of their interventions. Let me guess.... “My intervention times will not be accurate.” Currently, your interventions are not in chronological order, but in alphabetical order (fortunately, Airway begins with “A”). I believe it is more important to have our interventions in chronological order and have our care flow accurate. Solution for your time concerns: Document in the narrative area that all intervention times are approximate.

MAC

The Medical Advisory Committee has recently restructured and has included representation from all areas of EMS. Several providers have expressed interest in representing field providers, but there are only three (3) positions for field provider, which have been filled.

Here is another opportunity for providers to participate on the MAC. Each ALS Service Medical Director is permitted to appoint a proxy representative for them in the event they cannot attend a meeting. The ALS Service Medical Director must submit the proxy’s name in writing to the Regional Medical Director. The ALS Service Medical Director must renew the proxy representative each year. Contact Larry Loose at 215-340-8721 or ljloose@co.bucks.pa.us for more information.

DATA COLLECTION

EMSPRO Field Data Collection (Pinpoint) - As many of you may have experienced, while entering calls over the internet, at times you are kicked off and your PCR becomes locked. This is a safety feature built into the software linked to HIPPA regulations. Frequent causes of this are pop-up ads, toolbars, or other software installed on the computer you are working on that can cause temporary breaks in the internet connection. The software takes this as an attempt to hack into the PCR and locks the call.

The system is checked frequently for locked calls during the day and evening, seven (7) days a week. You can also contact the EHS Office Monday through Friday, between 8am-5pm to unlock calls.

BLK Field - When entering information in this field, enter the EMS BLK as is appears on your printout. If you do not know the information, please do not enter false numbers in this field. Enter the first three (3) numbers of the local the call is in followed by three (3) zeroes. For example, a call in Yardley’s (Squad 100) first due, enter 100-000.

TRAINING/CON-ED

CPR cards – Those individuals who submitted their CPR cards – thank you. Another reminder concerning CPR cards: If your CPR card expires before your FR/EMT expires, you will need to submit another current CPR card to our office before your FR/EMT can be recertified.

Learning Management System (LMS) – Are you registered? Currently, there are over 60 con-ed courses available. This is the State’s website where you can complete con-ed courses. You need to subscribe to it through our office. There is a link on our website called LMS. After you complete the registration form, it will be routed to our office and then forwarded to the State. You will receive a confirmation email from the State in 5-7 business days. After you complete a course, print the certificate and forward to our office so the credits can be applied to your certification.

Con-ed Cards – Con-ed cards are still not being completed correctly. The con-ed sponsor is responsible for making sure the cards are completed accurately before submitting them to our office, but providers are also responsible for knowing how to complete a card. Con-ed credits may not be credited to your certification if your card is not completed properly. When completing con-ed cards, please remember the following:

- 1) Registration No. – Enter a 1, then your certification number, then your certification level (levels are on the back of the con-ed card)
- 2) Inst. Hrs. – Students should fill in all zeros. Do not leave this blank.
- 3) County Code – This should be the code for the county you LIVE in. The sponsor/instructor of the course should have these codes.

First Responder/EMT Reinstatement – The State has a process called “Reinstatement” that allows expired First Responders or EMTs to become recertified without taking another certification class or testing. The requirements include completing paperwork that is available from our Office, completing all required con-ed credits (16 for FR

and 24 for EMT) (at least half of the credits have to be in the medical/trauma category), and completing a Healthcare Provider or Professional Rescuer CPR course. When all these requirements are completed and submitted to our Office, the recertification will be issued. To receive the reinstatement packet, please call our office.

BUCKS COUNTY SQUAD CHIEF’S ASSOCIATION

An EMT Scholarship award is available for any 2005-2006 paramedic Fall class. For more information, contact Carl Raphael at pamedic@comcast.net or 215-778-0864.

WEBSITE

Please refer to our website, www.bcehc.org for information on courses, protocols, licensure, etc.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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