

Emergency Medical Services

Partners

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Stroke Care Checklist

When transporting stroke patients to John Dempsey Hospital, please include the following key points in your radio patches and documentation.



- 1. Last Known Time Without Symptoms
- 2. Cincinnati Stroke Scale
- 3. Blood Glucose Tested
- 4. Acute Stroke Alert Called to Hospital*
- * Early Notification Saves Lives. Call from the scene if possible rather than from 2-3 minutes out.

Cincinnati Stroke Scale

Our region has chosen the Cincinnati Stroke Scale as our prehospital stroke scale. The scale consists of three components.

1) Facial Droop

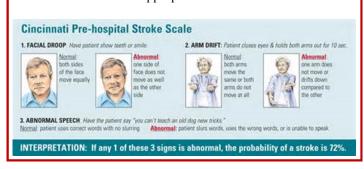
Normal: Both sides of face move equally Abnormal: One side of face does not move at all

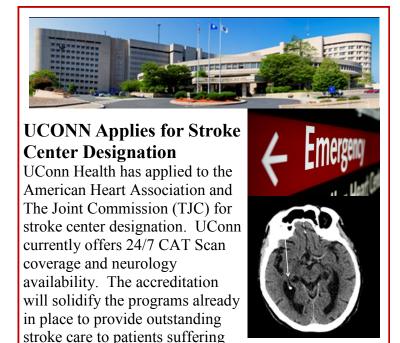
2) Arm Drift

Normal: Both arms move equally or not at all Abnormal: One arm drifts compared to the other

3) Abnormal Speech

Normal: Patient uses correct words with no slurring Abnormal: Slurred or inappropriate words or mute

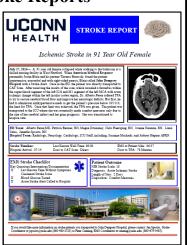




cerebral vascular accidents. There will be a site visit in October with a final recognition expected later in the Fall.

Look for our EMS Stroke Reports

Every stroke patient brought to UCONN Health Center by EMS will generate a stroke report to include EMS checklist performance, treatment timeline, radiology scans, treatment course and patient outcome. Reports will be posted in our EMS room. Keep up the good work! Your care makes a difference.



Canton Ambulance On-Line with Intranasal Narcan for Opiate Overdose

Canton Ambulance is the first nonparamedic servive in the state to carry Naloxone (Narcan), the drug capable of reversing heroin and other opiate overdoses. The program is made possible by a recent state health department decision to expand the scope of practice for EMTs and first responders to carry the drug due to the increasing heroin epidemic





that has led to numerous fatalities across Connecticut including deaths in Canton. To carry the drug first responders must gain the approval of their local sponsor hospital. Canton Ambulance does a great job providing emergency care in their town. We at **John Dempsev Hospital** have full confidence in their ability to use this life-saving intervention. Our UCONN Fire Department paramedics administered Narcan to 30 patients in the Farmington, Canton, Avon area, including 7 in Canton in the last two years. These calls have included heroin, percocet and oxycontin overdoses serious enough to depress patients' breathing to life-threatening levels. In nearly every case, the first responders and basic EMTs were on scene before paramedics. Allowing responders who first arrive at the scene to administer the drug can save critical time in reversing the effects of heroin and other opiates that cause a patient to slow and often stop breathing.

UCONN EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION 2014 Morning CMEs



September 17, 2014 October 15, 2014 November 19, 2014 December 17, 2014

8:30-11:30 A.M.

East Farms Fire, 94 South Road, Farmington CT

Skills Sessions in December Date TBA

UConn Health Center EMS Website

For news, educational information, CME schedule and past copies of our newsletter *Partners*, check out our website at:

uconnems.uchc.edu

Regional STEMI System Performance





Paramedics in the North Central Region have cut

the median door to balloon time for EMS patients by 7.5 minutes over the same period last year, according to the latest Mission Lifeline quarterly report. Our regional Door-to-Balloon median time for direct presentation EMS patients (excludes transfers) among the 4 regional PCI hospitals was 49.5 minutes in Q1 of 2014 compared to 57 minutes in 2013Q1.

The median First Medical Contact-to-Balloon (FMC) time dropped by 5.5 minutes from 85.5 to 80 minutes. Our medics are now outperforming the state and national medians in these categories. Great job all! Keep it up! and remember:

Early Notification Saves Lives!

- 1) Do a 12-Lead ECG on First Patient Contact
- 2) Call in a STEMI Alert with Medical Control from the Scene

STEMI Kudos

American Medical Response paramedic John Bunnell and his partner Michael Hennigan



did a great job with a recent STEMI patient in West Hartford doing an immediate 12-lead ECG and calling in a STEMI Alert, enabling the hospital to prepare for the arrival of a critically ill patient.

Ice Pops Are Back!

It's summer time and ice pops are back in the EMS room. We appreciate your hard work out in the field. Stop by our EMS room next time you are here and enjoy an ice-pop on a hot day.



CONTACT US:

Any questions or suggestions about EMS? Looking for patient follow-up?



Contact EMS Coordinator Peter Canning at <u>canning@uchc.edu</u> or call (860) 679-3485.