



## Emergency Medical Services *Partners*

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[uconnems.uhc.edu](http://uconnems.uhc.edu)

### 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

#### Cincinnati Pre-hospital Stroke Scale

##### 1. FACIAL DROOP: Have patient show teeth or smile.



##### 2. ARM DRIFT: Patient closes eyes & holds both arms out for 10 sec.



##### 3. ABNORMAL SPEECH: Have the patient say "you can't teach an old dog new tricks."

Normal: patient uses correct words with no slurring. Abnormal: patient slurs words, uses the wrong words, or is unable to speak

**INTERPRETATION: If any 1 of these 3 signs is abnormal, the probability of a stroke is 72%.**



### UConn Applies for Stroke Center Designation

UConn Health has applied to the American Heart Association and The Joint Commission (TJC) for stroke center designation. UConn currently offers 24/7 CAT Scan coverage and neurology availability. The accreditation will solidify the programs already in place to provide outstanding stroke care to patients suffering 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.

**UConn HEALTH**

**STROKE REPORT**

*Ischemic Stroke in 91 Year Old Female*

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**Case 17: 2014- A 91-year old female called while walking to the bathroom at a local nursing facility in West Hartford. While American Medical Response paramedic/EMT/EMT-P was present, the patient's husband called the paramedic/EMT/EMT-P and the patient's husband called the paramedic/EMT/EMT-P and the patient's husband called the paramedic/EMT/EMT-P.**

**ED Team:** Albers, Paramedic, Parnis, RN, Magan, RN, Chis, RN, Jossan, RN, Lisa, RN, Angler, RN, RN

**Hospital Team:** Radiology, Neurology, Cardiology, ICU Staff, including, Susan, Madsen, and Ashley, Mages, APRN.

**Stroke Timeline:** 09:14 Last Known Well Time: 08:00 EMS at Patient Side: 08:37 Hospital Arrival: 09:14 Door to CAT Scan: 09:01 Door to TPA: 78 Minutes

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**EMS Stroke Checklist**

✓ Question Answered/Documented

✓ Last Known Time Without Symptoms

✓ Cincinnati Stroke Scale

✓ Blood Glucose Tested

✓ Acute Stroke Alert Called to Hospital

**Patient Outcome**

NIH Stroke Scale: 18

Diagnosis: Acute Ischemic Stroke

Length of Stay: 2 Days

Discharge: Discharge/Transfer

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If you would like more information on stroke patients transported to John Dempsey Hospital, please contact: Joe Spicco, Stroke Coordinator at [jspicco@uconn.edu](mailto:jspicco@uconn.edu) (860-405-2125) or Peter Conzatti, EMS Coordinator at [conzatti@uconn.edu](mailto:conzatti@uconn.edu) (860-495-5442).

## 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 Dempsey 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.



## 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.

## 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



## 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 [canning@uchc.edu](mailto:canning@uchc.edu) or call (860) 679-3485.

## 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](http://uconnems.uchc.edu)