



Emergency Medical Services

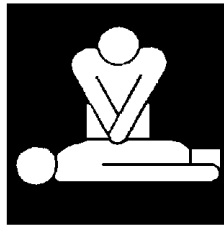
Partners

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Cardiac Arrest Saves

From October 2007 through December of 2010, the UCONN Fire Department paramedics have attempted resuscitation on 82 citizens in medical cardiac arrest. 14 patients (17%) were found in ventricular fibrillation (VF) or pulseless ventricular tachycardia (VT). The remainder were either in asystole or PEA (pulseless electrical activity). We are pleased to report that the UCONN paramedics exceeded the national average by successfully resuscitating 36% of patients found in VF/VT compared with the national rate of 21%.



Team Effort

Five citizens, who were found not breathing and without pulses, walked out of John Dempsey Hospital with full neurological recovery. All five survivors collapsed in public, received early CPR and defibrillation, basic and advanced life support care, and aggressive post resuscitation care by the medics and then by the medical staff at John Dempsey Hospital. The in-hospital care included cardiac catheterization and induced hypothermic therapy. The survivors were aged 51, 56, 58, 62 and 64. We are extremely proud of our local EMS system, from those who provide layperson CPR and business who make AEDs available in public places to our first responders, ambulance crews and intercept medics. What you do makes a real difference.

2010 Cardiac Arrest Benchmarks

This past year, we began collecting data on EMS interventions that are proven to make a difference in patient outcomes as part of a regional effort to evaluate and improve our EMS system. Here are results.

Cardiac Arrest Benchmarks

1. Time from 911 call to initiation of CPR. 5 Minutes or less.
2. Time from 911 call to placement of AED or cardiac monitor on patient in cardiac arrest: 5 minutes or less.



Of 29 Cardiac arrests the UCONN Fire paramedics responded to the towns of Avon, Canton, Farmington from June 1 to December 31, 2010 our data showed 90% of cardiac arrests received CPR (bystander or EMS) within the first 5 minutes. 48% had a defibrillator (either public access or EMS) placed within 5 minutes. While location and setting can make a big difference in the speed with which care arrives, analysis of this data shows a continued need to support our already strong citizen CPR and community public access defibrillation programs. *(In future issues we will be reporting the results of other benchmarks such as airway management, STEMI, CHF and trauma care.)*

Regional Guideline Review

The North Central Region Medical Advisory Committee has been reviewing our current treatment protocols, incorporating the latest changes from the American Heart Association and making other alterations based on the latest evidenced-based practices. It is not too late for you to provide input. Please contact your EMS coordinator or Medical Director with your suggestions. The new guidelines will likely be available in summer or early fall.

STEMI KUDOS

Granby Ambulance Paramedic Steve Johnson and his crew, Berri Wayand and Joshua Magdule, did a fine job recognizing a STEMI in a patient with chest discomfort. Johnson contacted JDH requesting a "STEMI Alert." Our cath lab team was in the ED on the patient's arrival, and the patient was taken immediately up to the cath lab where a 99% blockage of his right coronary artery was cleared and stented.

26 Minute D2B

UCONN Fire Paramedics Michael Alger and Joseph Speich and **Canton Ambulance** crew members Raymond Wheeler and Rowan Sheldon responded to a man with substernal chest discomfort. Again, their quick STEMI call, along with 12-lead transmission to the JDH ED, led to a remarkable 26 minute door-to-balloon time. Both patients were released within a few days with full heart function intact and the advice to follow heart healthy diets. Great job by all!

Meet our ED Staff

Dr. Robert Fuller has been the Chief of Service of John Dempsey Hospital's Emergency Department since 1997. A strong advocate for EMS, he also served as JDH's Director of Emergency Medical Services from 1997-2004, overseeing our area EMS response system. Dr. Fuller is well known for his work with the International Medical Corps. He was among the first physicians on the ground in Indonesia in January 2005 following the devastating tsunami and in Haiti in January 2010 in the wake of the earthquake. He also responded to the disaster following the hurricane in St. Lucia in November 2010 and was the team physician for a Special Operations Unit deployed to the 9/11 tragedy in New York. Last year, the Connecticut Hospital Association presented him with their prestigious Heath Care Hero Award.



UCONN Health Center EMS Web Site

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

uconnems.uhc.edu

February CME-Airway Management

Join us on February 3, 2011 at 9:00 A.M. for our monthly CME. All area providers are welcome.

BLS Airway

Dr. Bernard Simelton

Advanced Airway Management: Rapid Sequence Induction

Dr. Richard Kamin

Capnography and Airway Management

Peter Canning, Paramedic, R.N.

RSI Case Reviews

Journal Review: Prehospital RSI

"Prehospital Rapid Sequence Intubation Improves Functional Outcome for Patients With Severe Traumatic Brain Injury: A Randomized Controlled Trial."

Annals of Surgery, December 2010

Airway mannequins will be available for ALS BLS skills practice

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month in the ground level conference room of the Administrative Resources Building (ASB) located by the helipad. 3 hours CME are given. 4 if assigned articles are read. For questions about CME or to obtain a copy of journal article, send an email to Peter Canning at canning@uchc.edu or call at (860) 679-3485. Free parking is available in the lower lot of the Medical Arts & Research Building (MARB) next to the ASB: There are two levels of parking at the MARB. Both levels have general, convenience and patient parking. Please be attentive to the posted signs.

March Evening CME

Our quarterly evening CME series for 2011 kicks off **March 9, 2011** at 7:00 P.M. in Keller Auditorium. Lisa Carney, author of "Cowboy in the City" will be speaking about **Stress Management in EMS**. Peter Canning and Dr. Richard Kamin will discuss **EMS Pain Management: From BLS to Fentanyl**.

Pizza and refreshments will be served at 6:30 PM and door prizes will include autographed copies of Lisa's novel, an EMS monopoly game, and other surprises. All EMS responders and members of the general public are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars!

Cowboy In The City



Lisa Carney

CONTACT US:

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



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