



## Emergency Medical Services *Partners*

July 2016, Issue 74

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

### Canton Ambulance starts Paramedic Service—July 1, 2016

The town of **Canton Volunteer Fire and EMS Department** began providing town-based paramedic service to the community on July 1, 2016 after years of providing AEMT services. **UConn John Dempsey Hospital** will provide their medical control. The **UConn Fire Department** paramedics, who have historically provided outstanding paramedic intercept service to Canton, will continue to provide backup service when needed. Assistant Chief (EMS) John Bunnell deserves thanks and congratulations for his efforts to upgrade the town's EMS response. We wish Canton well and look forward to working closely with them in the coming years.

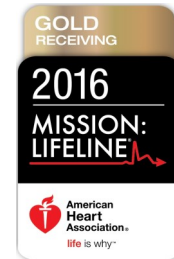


### UConn Wins Mission Lifeline STEMI Gold Two Years in a Row

**UConn John Dempsey Hospital** has received the Mission: Lifeline® Gold Receiving Quality Achievement Award for the treatment of patients who suffer severe heart attacks.

“We commend UConn John Dempsey Hospital for this achievement award, which reflects a significant institutional commitment to the highest quality of care for their heart attack patients,” said James G. Jollis, MD, Chair of the Mission: Lifeline Advisory Working Group.

“This award could not have been won without the contributions of our EMS partners,” said Richard Kamin, UConn EMS Medical Director. “Their dedication to improving their 12-lead ECG reading ability and calling in STEMI Alerts from the scene has improved the quality of life for many people in our community.”



### Stroke Alert

Great job this month by **UConn Fire Department** paramedic Mike Alger in caring for a man with a sudden onset of slurred speech, facial droop, and left-sided weakness. Alger called in a **Stroke Alert** to **UConn John Dempsey Hospital** where the patient, after receiving a full neurological assessment by our stroke team, received tPA within 50 minutes of arrival, giving him an improved chance of living a less disabled life. Thanks to our EMS partners, UConn John Dempsey Hospital had a median door to needle time of 35 minutes for EMS patients in 2016Q2. This is a tremendous achievement as the national standard for hospital door to needle is 60 minutes.



### John Dempsey Hospital/UConn Health Center Farmington, CT

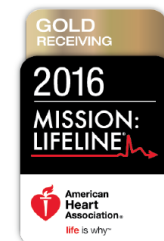
Mission: Lifeline® STEMI Receiving Center – GOLD Achievement Award Hospital

The American Heart Association recognizes this hospital for its continued success in using the Mission: Lifeline® STEMI program. Thank you for applying the most up-to-date evidence-based treatment guidelines to improve patient care and outcomes in the community you serve.

*Nancy Brown*  
Nancy Brown, Chief Executive Officer, American Heart Association

*James G. Jollis, MD, FACC*  
James G. Jollis, MD, FACC, Chief, Mission: Lifeline (Heart) Advisory Working Group

*Mark Croager, MD*  
Mark Croager, MD, 2016-2018 American Heart Association President



\*For more information, please visit [Heart.org/MLQualityAwards](http://Heart.org/MLQualityAwards).

## Rare Retrograde Canalization



**Bristol EMS** paramedics Brien LaForge and Michael Ortiz and EMT Mandi-Lynn Guertin responded for a male with sudden worsening of chest pain he had been feeling for three days. A 12-lead ECG revealed an acute inferior STEMI. The **UConn John Dempsey** cath lab was activated prehospitally thanks to a **STEMI ALERT**. In the cath lab, the patient was found to have an occluded Right Coronary Artery. Due to torturous anatomy making access through the antegrade method impossible, a balloon pump was placed and Dr. Michael Azrin performed a rare retrograde canalization that successfully opened the occluded vessel, and salvaged the endangered heart tissue, leaving the patient with excellent left ventricular function. The patient is back home with his family doing great!



## Serial ECGs Reveal Inferior STEMI

**American Medical Response** paramedic Rick Bergen responded for a female with increasing chest pain, nausea and diaphoresis. Bergen's first 12-lead was normal. The second revealed ST elevation in the inferior leads. Bergen called in a STEMI Alert to **UConn John Dempsey Hospital**, activating the cardiac cath lab. In the lab, the patient was found to have an acute occlusion in her Right Coronary Artery (RCA). She received 2 drug-eluting stents and a post procedure echocardiogram revealed normal left ventricular ejection fraction. The patient has been discharged home on a new medication regime. Great job by EMS for doing serial ECGs!



## Heat Emergencies

With summer upon us, remember the key tenets of heat emergency care: ABCs



- Move patient to cool shaded area.
- Remove as much clothing as possible.
- Assess level of mentation and access vital signs.
- If patient is alert give the patient cool liquids to drink.
- Consider giving IV NS 500 cc bolus or 20cc/kg in child and repeat when clinically appropriate.
- If temp is over 104 or if altered mental status is present begin active cooling.
- Continuously misting patient with tepid water while fanning (Most recommend).
- Immersion cooling (Young and healthy).
- Ice packs in axilla and groin, wrap in wet towels.
- Benzodiazepines to control shivering.
- Cool to temp of 101.5 F.

## 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.



## 2016 UCONN EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION

Monthly Morning CME



July-No CME  
 August – No CME  
 September 21, 2016  
 October 19, 2016  
 November 16, 2016  
 December 21, 2016



Cell and Genome Sciences Building Conference Room  
 400 Farmington Avenue  
 Farmington, CT  
 8:30-11:30 A.M.

Bagels and Coffee will be served  
 For Questions, email Peter Canning at [canning@uchc.edu](mailto:canning@uchc.edu)  
 ALL EMS RESPONDERS WELCOME

## UConn Health 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)

## 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.