



## Emergency Medical Services *Partners*

November 2014, Issue 54

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

### New Spinal Trauma Guidelines

The state of Connecticut has released new statewide guidelines permitting BLS providers to use selective spinal immobilization and to limit the use of long backboards for all providers to assistance for extrication and patient movement in patients with spinal trauma. These new Spinal Motion Restriction guidelines were long awaited and will make a huge difference in patient outcomes not to mention comfort. The new guidelines are posted in the UCONN Health EMS room and can be accessed online at the CT OEMS web site.



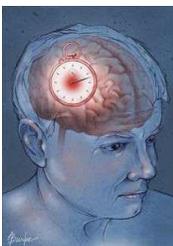
### UCONN Fire Department Now Transporting

The UCONN Fire Department received its ambulance license from the state as well as designation as the transporting agency for the UCONN Health Center campus. The Department's ambulance will respond to emergencies on the UCONN campus and be available for mutual aid off the campus, as well as doing emergency interfacility transports.



### Early Notification for Stroke Patients

The only proven therapy for acute ischemic stroke patients is TPA. Research shows the sooner patients receive TPA, the better the outcomes. At UCONN Health we have streamlined our stroke procedures for EMS patients to include Field Stroke Activations, Direct to CAT Scan, and TPA mixed at bedside. Provide early notification of all suspected stroke patients so our ED and Neurology team can be ready for you when you arrive. If possible call from the scene. Remember Early Notification means reduced door-to-needle times and reduced disability for your patients! Include Last Know Well Time, Cincinnati Stroke Scale Score and Blood Glucose in your **Stroke Alert** patch. We will provide EMS will full follow-up on all patients you bring here. Keep up the great work!



### UCONN HeliPad Reopens

The UCONN Health Center helicopter pad has reopened at the base of the hill. The UCONN Health Fire Department will be the contact for ground transport to and from the helipad.



### Ebola Notification

Provide Advance Notification to hospital via CMED of possible Ebola patient. On hospital arrival, wait in ambulance for ED Staff to provide entry directions. Patients will be brought to secure room in hospital. EMS will be instructed on provider decontamination procedures/waste disposal.

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1. Has patient traveled to an Ebola-affected area within the last 21 days or have they been in contact with any person known/suspected of having Ebola?
  2. Does the patient have fever and additional symptoms such as severe headache, muscle pain, weakness, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal (stomach) pain or unexplained hemorrhage (bleeding or bruising)?
- If YES to both, isolate patient, don appropriate PPE.



### EMS Pain Management Heroes

We are tracking pain management through our trauma data registry. In September we had seven traumatic hip fracture patients brought in by EMS. 4 received ALS responses. Of those cases, 3 paramedics treated their patients with analgesia. Great jobs by **American Medical Response** paramedics Greg Shovak, Dave Roper and Rick Bergen.



## STEMI Kudos:

**Simsbury Ambulance** paramedics Robert Girard and Greg Shovak along with their EMT partners Matthew Huebner and Brendan Clancy responded for a 59 year old male who had experienced a sudden onset of substernal chest pressure at rest, accompanied by diaphoresis



and nausea. The Simsbury team went to work, doing a 12-lead ECG, giving the patient aspirin and preparing for rapid extrication while they transmitted the ECG, which showed an inferior STEMI to **John Dempsey Hospital**. They called in a STEMI Alert, activating the cath lab 23 minutes prior to their arrival. This lead time enabled the cardiac cath team to prepare for the patient, who had a 100% occlusion of the right coronary artery (RCA). The occlusion was cleared and two drug-eluting stents were placed. The patient did well and has a fully preserved left ventricular ejection fraction. 37 Minute Door-to-Balloon. 69 Minute First Medical Contact to Balloon Time.

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## American Medical Response

paramedics John Balint and Michael Palmieri brought in back to back STEMI's from Avon early in the month, recording door-to-balloon times of 32 and 60 minutes.



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## Bristol Ambulance

paramedics Denise Shea and her partners Lisa Venditti and Melissa Patrick were transporting an intubated STEMI patient from one facility to another when the patient suddenly suffered a PEA cardiac arrest causing Shea to divert to the closest PCI facility John Dempsey Hospital. The Bristol crew was able to regain pulses after four minutes of CPR and one round of epinephrine. The patient had three tandem lesions in the proximal and mid LAD of 90% to 99%. These were cleared and stented with two drug-eluting stents, restoring perfusion. Door-to-Balloon 56 Minutes.



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Great work again by the EMS-JDH Hospital STEMI team!



## UCONN EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION

November Morning EMS CME



### Shock

Dr. Ryan Bass

### Case Reviews:

Richard Kamin, M.D.

### STEMI and Stroke Reviews:

Peter Canning, Jen Sposito

### Ebola Update

Kamin and Canning

### Research Review:

#### Alteplase in Acute Ischemic Stroke

*Effect of treatment delay, age, and stroke severity on the effects of intravenous thrombolysis with alteplase for acute ischaemic stroke: a meta-analysis of individual patient data from randomised trials*

The Lancet: August 5, 2014

November 19, 2014 (Wednesday)  
8:30 A.M.

East Farms Fire Department  
94 South Road, Farmington, CT

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

ALL EMS RESPONDERS AND GENERAL PUBLIC  
WELCOME

## UCONN EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION

### 2014 Wednesday Morning CMEs

November 19, 2014  
December 17, 2014  
8:30-11:30 A.M.

East Farms Fire, 94 South Road, Farmington CT



## 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)