



Emergency Medical Services *Partners*

December 2020, Issue 121

health.uconn.edu/ems

COVID-19 Raging in Connecticut

COVID-19 is rapidly escalating in Connecticut. According to the COVID Tracking web site, [COVID ACTNOW](#), all counties in Connecticut are now in active outbreak. The disease is not just in nursing homes, prisons, and assisted living facilities, it is widespread in the general community. Anyone could have it. Remember many people who have the disease and who are capable of spreading it are asymptomatic. For those who are or become symptomatic, the infectious period is believed to be two days before symptom onset and five days after. While there is great news coming about vaccines, which will hopefully start to be made available to EMS workers later in December or early January, we have to be particularly cautious at this time. We have seen a rapid increase in our inpatient (including ICU) cases of COVID as well as many cases of patients who are discharged home from the ER with COVID-19.



Please be careful and wear your PPE, including face shield or goggles. You should be wearing a face mask at all times when within six feet of people, including your partners and coworkers.

Visitor Restrictions

Due to rising COVID-19 cases in the community, we have returned to a No Visitor level of restriction for our Emergency Department. While we will do our best to compassionately accommodate exceptions where possible, safety is our first priority. Guidelines are subject to change if safety measures cannot be maintained.

The 6 R's of Medication Safety

Practice the 6 R's to ensure patient safety.



Right Medication

Do you read the label of a drug before you draw it up? Are there any drugs in your kit that could be mistaken for the other? Did you ask the patient if they were allergic to any medicine?

Right Dose

Did you double check your math? A wrong decimal point in calculating can be fatal to a pediatric.

Right Route

High dose epinephrine can save a life when given IM, it can kill a patient when given IV if not properly diluted.

Right Time

Do you know long it takes each of your drugs to take effect and how long they last? Very few EMS drugs should be pushed rapidly, which can cause significant side effects? Did you wait long enough to administer the second dose. Repeat dosing too quickly can lead to overdose.

Right Patient

Did you get a positive identification on your patient with dementia? Does the patient on your stretcher match the patient's paperwork you were handed?



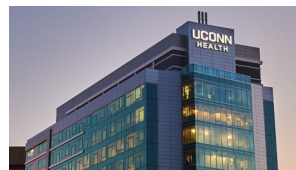
Right Documentation

If you gave a drug, but did not document it, the patient is subject to double dosing at the ED. If you documented you gave a drug, but forgot to administer it, the patient may miss an essential medicine such as ASA during a cardiac event. A major source of medical errors is miscommunication at patient handover. This is why both a complete verbal report AND a properly documented PCR is essential to patient care.



**American Heart Association
ACCREDITATION**
Meets standards for
Heart Attack Receiving Center

**Mission:
Lifeline®**



**PRIMARY STROKE
CENTER CERTIFICATION**



American Heart Association
**AMERICAN STROKE ASSOCIATION
CERTIFICATION**
Primary Stroke Center

Virtual CME-December 16, 2020

Please join us for our monthly CME on Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 8:30 A.M. until 11:30 A.M. Our CMEs are held via Webex. CME certificates for three hours are available on request after the CME. **Last month we had over 100 participants!**

Meeting link:

<https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/uconn-cmr/j.php?MTID=m916b5a3cf93a7d9c98d2570e49cbb29f>

Meeting number: 120 987 7270
Password: AfFD9pSXF86
Host key: 749126

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0002 US Toll

Note: This link is good for all monthly CMEs.

UConn EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION 2020-2021



December 16, 2020
2021 Dates TBA



8:30-11:30 A.M. (Wednesdays)
All CMEs for the remainder of 2020
will be virtual CMEs.

3 Hours CME
ALL EMS RESPONDERS WELCOME

UConn EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION



COVID-19 Update
David Banach, MD

**Responding to Disasters:
Experiences and Opportunities**
Stanley Chartoff, MD

Airway Obstruction
Johnathan Nieves, MD

Case Reviews
Dr. Richard Kamin/Peter Canning, Paramedic, R.N.

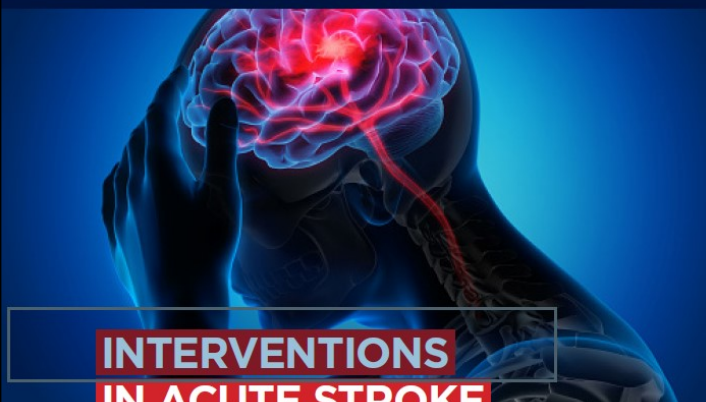
Stroke, STEMI, Trauma Review

(3 Hours CME)
For Questions:
email Peter Canning at canning@uchc.edu

ALL EMS RESPONDERS WELCOME
Online Virtual CME
December 16, 2020 8:30-11:30 A.M.
3rd Wednesday!

Neurocritical Care Series

UConn HEALTH



INTERVENTIONS IN ACUTE STROKE

This program is open to all Interprofessional Staff to increase their professional development and knowledge of stroke-related topics.

AUDIO CONFERENCE

PRESENTED BY: UConn Health's Certified Primary Stroke Center
SPEAKER: Ketan Bulsara, M.D., M.B.A.
Chief, Division of Neurosurgery
DATE: Monday, December 14, 2020
TIME: 9 a.m.
ADDRESS: h.uconn.edu/acutestroke
PHONE: US Toll +1-415-655-0003
PASSWORD: uconn
ACCESS CODE: 120 270 9898

UConn Health JDH EMS Website

For news, educational information, CME schedule and past copies of our newsletter *Partners*, check out our website at:
health.uconn.edu/ems

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.