The EMS crews at Bristol EMS were involved in two life-saving calls this past month that resulted in patients who suffered prehospital cardiac arrests, walking out of UConn John Dempsey Hospital with full neurological function.

Paramedics Taylor Gonzales, Rachel Guillemette and Boblee Bruce and EMT Jessica Caccomo responded for a patient who collapsed after exercising and received bystander CPR and one defibrillation from an AED. The patient subsequently rearrested and the crew shocked him again with return to pulses. A 12-lead ECG revealed ST elevation so they called in a STEMI ALERT to UConn John Dempsey Hospital. En route to the hospital they gave the patient magnesium and Amiodarone. In the cardiac cath lab, the patient was found to have multiple occlusions and received angioplasty of the Left Main and two stents to the Left Anterior Descending Artery (LAD). Three days later he was discharged home.

Earlier on the day of his cardiac arrest, the patient, a veteran, had been laying wreaths on the graves of other veterans in preparation for memorial day. The lead paramedic on the call, Taylor Gonzales, is a veteran of the Iraq war. The two later had lunch together.

Earlier in May Bristol paramedics Denise Shea, Alan Green and Enis Mara and EMT Patti Lizotte responded for a patient in cardiac arrest. The crew did an amazing job, delivering multiple defibrillations with the patient regaining consciousness and then slipping back into a shockable rhythm. An early 12-lead ECG revealed an anterior STEMI. The crew called in a STEMI ALERT from the scene. At UConn John Dempsey Hospital the patient was transported to the cath lab on the EMS stretcher. In the lab, the cardiac team found the patient had an occluded Left Anterior Descending Artery (LAD), which was successfully cleared and stented, restoring perfusion. The patient did great and returned home a few days later with no neurological deficit.

Keep up the great work Bristol EMS and all EMS services out there protecting our citizens!
Greg Berryman 1966-2021

Few people truly meet the criteria of larger than life. Grey Berryman was one of those. A paramedic in Hartford in the 1990’s, he later worked for Middlesex Hospital EMS, and was an EMS instructor at Hartford Hospital and Code One Training Solutions. A veteran, father and husband, he left his mark on the world, and will not be easily forgotten.

UConn EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION

Drowning and Submersion Injuries
Connor Mcelligott, M.D.

Exertional Hyperthermia
Richard Kamin, M.D.

Abnormal Lab Values:
5 Cases You Will See
Peter Canning, Paramedic, R.N.

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

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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.