

State EMS Medical Director's News

I want to take this opportunity to address a couple of issues that we continually deal with on a daily basis in the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS). The first issue is the continued noncompliance of individual Emergency Medical Service Personnel (EMSP) not completing the electronic Patient Care Record (e-PCR) correctly. We have a very difficult time extracting useful data from the e-PCR when the Alabama Trauma Communications Center (ATCC) number is not included, in the wrong place, etc. We continue to have instances in which EMSP do not document the problem or complaint. We have instances in which EMSP are documenting surgical airways, pericardiocentesis, etc., because these procedures are in close proximity to the data fields of other commonly performed procedures.

The second issue is noncompliance with helicopter protocol. I expect every EMSP to follow this protocol just like any other OEMS protocol. Please familiarize yourselves with this protocol and all other protocols that have been adopted by the State Committee of Public Health. Any company whose actions are deterring or not encouraging their personnel to follow this protocol will not be tolerated.

We have made a decision at the OEMS that continued noncompliance with accurate e-PCR completion, noncompliance with the helicopter protocol, or repeated noncompliance with any protocol will result in a personal appearance in the OEMS to explain your actions. Noncompliance can certainly be grounds for licensure suspension.

William Crawford, M.D.

National Registry Amnesty

Reinstatement of National EMS Certification for Alabama EMS Licensure

Instructions for the Alabama/NREMT – Mark King Initiative

Follow These Simple Steps to Apply (2012 Alabama State License Renewals ONLY):

- Create an account on the NREMT website.
- Go to www.nremt.org, click on 'Create New Account' located near the upper left corner and follow the instructions. Request User role of: 'National certified EMS professional.'
- Login with the User name and Password you created – follow the prompts to 'Manage your NREMT profile' by completing the requested information (name, address, etc.).
- When your profile is complete, click on 'CBT Candidates.'
- Locate the 'Mark King Initiative' section in the center of the screen. Use the drop down field to select 'Alabama', click Submit.
- The system will process your request to determine your eligibility (if you are not eligible and believe you should be, please contact the Alabama Office of EMS).
- Pay the current National Registry Recertification application fee (EMT-Basic and Intermediate: \$15.00; Paramedic: \$20).
- The NREMT will issue you a National EMS Certification card and provide you with recertification requirements.
- You will continue to recertify with the NREMT throughout your EMS career as a requirement of your Alabama State License.

Deadline to Apply – December 31, 2012

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National Registry Amnesty Info. continued

Alabama EMS providers who renewed their Alabama state license in 2012 have until December 31, 2012 to create an account and apply for reinstatement. You must have your registry card to renew your license in 2014.

Failure to do so will disqualify you for reinstatement and you will need to re-enter the National Registry following the current entry requirements (proof of state licensure, documentation of a refresher, verification of skills and successful completion of the current National EMS Certification examination).

Alabama EMS providers who have NEVER been Nationally Registered will have to complete the same continuing education requirements as everyone else and will need to have their hours available for renewal, but will NOT have to provide a Registry card.

Mr. Mark E. King (1953-2006) was the State EMS Director for West Virginia, a former NREMT Board member and an EMS provider for over 25 years. It was a vision of his to see States move to requiring EMS providers to maintain their National EMS Certification as a part of moving the EMS profession forward and promoting National EMS Standards. It is in recognition of his vision and contributions to the EMS Community that this initiative is named in his honor.

Participation in the Mark King Initiative is authorized by State EMS Agencies who require EMS providers to maintain their National EMS Certification as a condition of their continued state certification/licensure.

Licensure Update

- There is no longer an inactive status for Alabama licensed EMSP.
 - Any licensed Intermediate that has not attended or was not successful in completing the Intermediate Medication and Procedure Course will be re-classed to the EMT level.
 - National Registry Amnesty will be available for 2012 renewals from June 1-December 31, 2012.
 - All individuals renewing their license in 2013 will be required to provide a copy of their National Registry card and proof of FULL Alabama Treatment Protocols completion. This National Registry card requirement does not apply to those who have never acquired National Registry Certification.
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REMINDER

The OEMS would like to request that you comply with the requests for information from your regional office. Some Directors are still having issues receiving information and data as requested by the state office. We would greatly appreciate your cooperation and compliance.

PLEASE NOTE:

Do you have questions for the OEMS Staff?

This is another reminder to those of you calling our Office (334-206-5383):

Complaints, Investigations - Call Mark Jackson

Service Inspections or Service Licenses - Call Hugh Hollon or Kem Thomas

Individual Training, Testing or Individual Licenses - Call Gary Mackey or Stephanie Smith

EMS for Children, Grants, Contracts – Call Katherine Hert

Newsletter Reminder

- The newsletter is free to anyone as long as they have internet access to our web page www.adph.org/ems. The newsletters can be found under the Notices and Events link found in the menu bar or to all Alabama licensed EMSP who have a **valid** email address. Our licensure database is used to store your last submitted valid email address, but cannot accommodate unlicensed people. They will have to visit our web site to view or download the newsletter.
- If you are not getting our newsletter via email it is either because the email address was sent to us in an illegible or incorrect format or you changed it and did not update it through our office. You can email any changes via emsinquiry@adph.state.al.us or call office staff at 334-206-5383.
- Also, you may have a spam blocker set up on your email. Our office has no way to manually or automatically address this issue. Multitudes of emails are “kicked back” to our office email system with message asking us to complete a number of tasks to be allowed to send you an email. As long as you have this set up on your pc, you will not be able to receive our newsletter.

VHF Radio Update

*The OEMS and Center for Emergency Preparedness have collaborated in the upgrade of all medical direction facilities and the **Hospital Emergency Administrative Radio (HEAR)** system. Listed below are the access tones for use during emergency situations when other communications systems fail. **The following information should be programmed for hospitals located in their area:***

LICENSEE	COUNTY	CH. GUARD	CALL SIGN
SPRINGHILL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	MOBILE	210.7	WQOL212
UNIV OF SO AL MEDICAL CENTER	MOBILE	146.2	WQOV201
PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL	MOBILE	131.8	WQOV201
JACKSON MEDICAL CENTER	CLARKE	110.9	WQOL212
MONROE COUNTY HOSPITAL	MONROE	100.0	WQOV201
EVERGREEN MEDICAL CENTER	CONECUH	167.9	WQOK961
D.W. McMILLAN MEMORIAL	ESCAMBIA	127.3	WQOU652
ANDALUSIA HOSPITAL	COVINGTON	91.5	WQOV201
ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL	COFFEE	82.5	WQOL212

MEDICAL CENTER ENTERPRISE	COFFEE	100.0	WPKA732
FLOWERS HOSPITAL	HOUSTON	151.4	WQOL212
SOUTHEAST ALABAMA MEDICAL CENTER	HOUSTON	103.5	WQOV201
DALE MEDICAL CENTER	DALE	71.9	WQOL214
ATTENTUS TROY LLC DBA TROY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	PIKE	218.1	WQOL221
MEDICAL CENTER (COLUMBUS REGIONAL HEALTHCARE)	MUSCOGEE	131.8	WQOL214
SAINT FRANCIS HOSPITAL	MUSCOGEE	131.8	WQOL214
EAST ALABAMA MEDICAL CENTER	LEE	123.0	WQOL214
RUSSELL HOSPITAL	TALLAPOOSA	118.8	KNAO505
CLAY COUNTY HOSPITAL	CLAY	146.2	KXK954
COOSA VALLEY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER	TALLADEGA	103.2	WNHF855
CITIZENS BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER	TALLADEGA	192.8	WQOK958
STRINGFELLOW MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	CALHOUN	206.5	WQOK958
ST VINCENTS ST CLAIR HOSPITAL (PELL CITY)	ST CLAIR	141.3	WQOL250
CHEROKEE MEDICAL CENTER	CHEROKEE	82.5	KFA472
GADSDEN REGIONAL HOSPITAL	ETOWAH	114.8	WQOV200
RIVERVIEW REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	ETOWAH	85.4	WQOK958
MARSHALL MEDICAL CENTER SOUTH	MARSHALL	203.5	WQOV200
MARSHALL MEDICAL CENTER NORTH	MARSHALL	107.2	WQOV200
DEKALB REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	DEKALB	136.5	WQOK958
HIGHLANDS MEDICAL CENTER (JACKSON CO. HEALTHCARE AUTH.)	JACKSON	179.9	KTZ246
HUNTSVILLE HOSPITAL (UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE)	MADISON	127.3	WQOU652
CRESTWOOD HEALTHARE, LP	MADISON	225.7	WQOU652
PARKWAY MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITAL	MORGAN	146.2	WQOU652
CULLMAN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	CULLMAN	179.9	WQOV200
ATHENS LIMESTONE HOSPITAL	LIMESTONE	127.3	WQOU652
DECATUR GENERAL HOSPITAL	MORGAN	123.0	WQOU652
LAWRENCE MEDICAL CENTER	LAWRENCE	94.8	WQOK944
HELEN KELLER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	COLBERT	162.2	WQOK944
RUSSELLVILLE HOSPITAL, LLC	FRANKLIN	210.7	KNAB916
LAKELAND COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	WINSTON	218.1	KNBD637
FAYETTE MEDICAL CENTER	FAYETTE	82.5	KWJ231
VAUGHN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	DALLAS	127.3	WQOK944
TOMBIGBEE EMS	MARENGO	82.5	n/a
RILEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	LAUDERDALE,MS	n/a	WPWG407
RUSH FOUNDATION HOSPITAL	LAUDERDALE,MS	n/a	WPTC846
JEFF ANDERSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	LAUDERDALE,MS	n/a	KSL246
BAPTIST MEMORIAL- GOLDEN TRIANGLE HOSPITAL	LOWNDES, MS	n/a	WQOK961
NORTHWEST MEDICAL CENTER	MARION	151.4	WNAL326

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SHELBY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER	SHELBY	103.5	WQOK944
MEDICAL WEST (UAB WEST)	JEFFERSON	136.5	WQOL250
UAB HIGHLANDS	JEFFERSON	225.7	WQOL250
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA HOSPITAL	JEFFERSON	186.2	WQG744
ST VINCENTS EAST (BIRMINGHAM)	JEFFERSON	218.1	n/a
BROOKWOOD MEDICAL CENTER	JEFFERSON	179.9	WQOL250
BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER - PRINCETON	JEFFERSON	131.8	WQOL250
TRINITY MEDICAL CENTER	JEFFERSON	173.8	WQOL221
ST. VINCENTS BIRMINGHAM	JEFFERSON	162.2	KRI598
DCH REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	TUSCALOOSA	210.7	WQOK944
NORTH MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER	LEE, MS	n/a	KSV832
NMMC - HAMILTON	MARION	141.3	n/a
JONES, TEDDY DBA WALKER BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER	WALKER	110.9	KXK991
ELIZA COFFEE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	LAUDERDALE	100.0	n/a
MEDICAL CENTER BLOUNT (ST. VINCENTS BLOUNT)	BLOUNT	186.2	WQOK958
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ALABAMA	JEFFERSON	141.3	WQOL374
CHILTON MEDICAL CENTER	CHILTON	141.3	WQOL250
CRENSHAW COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	CRENSHAW	123.0	WQOL221
EUFAULA HOSPITAL CORP DBA LAKEVIEW COMM. HOSP.	BARBOUR	173.8	WQOL221
PRATTVILLE BAPTIST HOSPITAL	AUTAUGA	100.0	WQOK961
JACKSON HOSPITAL & CLINIC INC	MONTGOMERY	77.0	WQOK961
BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER (SOUTH)	MONTGOMERY	94.8	WQOK961
COLUMBIA EAST MONTGOMERY MEDICAL CENTER (BAPTIST EAST)	MONTGOMERY	103.5	WQOL221
L.V. STABLER HOSPITAL	BUTLER	203.5	WQEM308
SOUTH BALDWIN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	BALDWIN	77.0	WQOL212
CHATTANOOGA HAMILTON CO HOSPITAL AUTHORITY	HAMILTON, TN	n/a	KNIN875

Brunswick Woodmere Lanes Wants to Thank Montgomery and River Region EMS Providers

Brunswick Woodmere Lanes is very excited to have the opportunity to thank our Emergency Medical Service providers in Montgomery and the River Region area. EMSP and all first responders save lives every day and Brunswick Woodmere Lanes would like to say a big, "Thank You!" Your discounted rate of 10% off bowling (*excluding: food, beverages, Pro Shop and Arcade) will begin this holiday season and continue throughout the entire year. We will also have future events specifically for our EMSP, Fire Department, Police Department, Sheriff Department, and Military. You will be required to provide appropriate identification in order to receive the discounted rate. Check the OEMS website often for future events and discounts available at Brunswick Woodmere Lanes.

Provider Service News

Provider service license renewals have been completed for services in Region One (North), Region Three (BREMSS), and Region Four (West). A total of 160 services renewed their licenses. The current license and/or ALS authorization for these agencies will expire June 30, 2013.

Services in Region Two (East), Region Five (Southeast), and Region Six (Gulf) have expiration dates of December 31, 2012. A postcard reminder for renewals will be sent to each agency in September. More information regarding service license renewals will be forthcoming in future issues of the EMS Newsletter.

OEMS staff continues to monitor e-PCR submissions. If your agency is not submitting data as required, you will be receiving email notices and/or phone calls questioning why reports are not being submitted. OEMS IT staff is available to help with questions you may have regarding e-PCR submissions.

Ambulance inspections are on-going across the state. Equipment lists for all provider levels can be found at the following OEMS website: <http://www.adph.org/ems/Default.asp?id=5567>. The new lists became effective June 2012.

Culture of Excellence

- Alexander City Fire Department
- Care Ambulance Chilton County
- Cherokee Rescue Squad
- Eclectic Fire Department
- Montevallo Fire & Rescue
- Tallapoosa EMS
- Walnut Grove Volunteer Fire Department

Benjamin Russell Hospital for Children

On behalf of Children's Hospital of Alabama we are excited to announce our plan for the opening of the new **Benjamin Russell Hospital for Children**. In order for us to ensure a successful opening, please be advised of some very important dates:

- The existing Emergency Department will remain OPEN until 5:00 AM, Saturday August 4th.
- The NEW ED on the corner of 5th Ave South and 16th Street will OPEN at 5:01 AM that same day, Saturday August 4th.
- The entire Expansion Facility will officially open Saturday August 4th.

Prior to August 4th, there will be NO access to the NEW Emergency Department.

****Please also note that all of Children's Hospital phone numbers are changing their prefix from 939 to 638. The main number will be (205) 638-9100.***

Jennifer Denard Brown, RN-BC

Emergency Department Director
Children's of Alabama



Children's
of Alabama



The Concussion Clinic at Children's of Alabama

“Stay aHEAD of the curve!”

**For questions about concussions or setting up an action plan at your school, please call:
UAB Sports Medicine at Children's of Alabama - (205) 934-1041.**

About the Concussion Clinic: The Concussion Clinic at Children's of Alabama was established to provide evaluation, treatment, and medical clearance for “return to play” for youth and teenage athletes in our community. The strength of the program lies in our interdisciplinary focus: skilled athletic trainers, nurses and physicians from the divisions of Emergency Medicine, Sports Medicine, Neurosurgery, Rehabilitation Medicine, and Neuropsychology, working together to optimize the management of children and adolescents who have suffered a concussion. Another important part of our mission involves working with the Alabama sports community to educate parents, trainers, coaches, and athletic directors about the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of concussion in young athletes.

About Concussions: The CDC estimates that as many as 3.8 million athletes suffer concussion every year in the United States. Sports with the highest rates of concussion include football and hockey, though significant numbers occur in other sports, including lacrosse, soccer, and basketball. The effect of these concussions on the developing and adolescent brain is unknown, but athletes who have had a single concussion are much more likely to suffer subsequent concussions. Younger athletes may also take longer than college and professional athletes to recover from concussion.

Most concussions are associated with symptoms like headaches, confusion, nausea, dizziness, and blurred vision. It is important to remember that fewer than 10 percent of concussions result in loss of consciousness. When a concussion is suspected, it is most important to immediately remove the athlete from the playing field and have him/her assessed by an experienced athletic trainer or on-field physician. Young athletes who return to play before resolution of their concussion symptoms are at higher risk for significant brain injury.

Return to Play: Athletes should not be returned to play the same day of injury. When returning athletes to play, they should follow a stepwise symptom-limited program, with stages of progression.

For example:

1. Rest until asymptomatic (physical and mental rest)
2. Light aerobic exercise (e.g. stationary cycle)
3. Sport-specific exercise
4. Non-contact training drills (start light resistance training)
5. Full contact training after medical clearance
6. Return to competition (game play)

There should be approximately 24 hours (or longer) for each stage and the athlete should return to stage 1 if symptoms recur. Resistance training should only be added in the later stages. Medical clearance should be given before return to play.

Alabama State Law: The recently passed Alabama state law mandates that all athletes who have suffered concussion must be evaluated by a qualified physician before returning to play.

[Click the link below to download and print the Sports Concussion Assessment Tool \(SCAT2\)](#)

http://thinkfirst.childrensal.org/workfiles/Clinical_Services/Concussion/ConcussionCard.pdf

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