



FYI.....We haven't reneged on our promise of free pediatric equipment for licensed ALS services. Unfortunately, the winning bidder has run into some problems and is running behind schedule on delivery. The equipment, which includes pediatric back boards, inflatable car seats, and Broselow tapes, should be ready for distribution by early September (We hope!). Qualifying services will be notified by letter regarding equipment pick-up site and dates. Remember that services are responsible for the pick up of their equipment at the time specified in the letter. Any equipment not picked up at the delegated times will be reassigned and given away. Keep watching for your notification letter!

DIRECTOR'S WORDS

Recently, I had the pleasure to meet with 117 of you (EMS providers) at the EMS Prepares one-day training courses held in Huntsville, Montgomery, and Mobile. I want to thank all of you who attended. I hope that the training provided more insight about your role in emergency situations. Thanks, again, to our Center for Emergency Preparedness for funding this training.

The Office of EMS & Trauma is growing! We'd like to welcome our newest OEMST member, Willie Smith, an EMS Specialist, and former Montgomery Firemedic. You may soon have the opportunity to meet Willie as he makes his way out into the state, conducting EMS service inspections. We'll be adding two additional EMS Specialists to our service inspection team in the next couple of months.

Please feel free to contact me or my staff if you have questions or need information. Let us know what you'd like to see included in this newsletter by e-mailing us at emsnews@adph.state.al.us. I hope that you and your families have a safe and happy summer.

Dennis Blair, Director
Office of EMS and Trauma

MEETINGS & EVENTS

State Emergency Medical Control Committee Meeting-
September 25, 1:00 p.m., Montgomery County Health
Department, 3060 Mobile Highway, Montgomery, Alabama AL

Check out www.adph.org/ems to stay informed about happenings and events in EMS.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Injury is the #1 cause of death in children. This year alone, 14 million children under the age of 15 will be injured seriously enough to require medical attention. These are tragic figures, especially since injuries are not accidents; they have predictable patterns, circumstances and at risk groups.

Fortunately, one of the keys to injury control is prevention. As prehospital professionals, you are in a unique position to be advocates for children and injury prevention throughout the state of Alabama. Some examples of injury prevention strategies include: the use of car seats, seat belts, motorcycle helmets, bicycle helmets, gated stairways, fire and smoke detectors, and pool alarms; discouragement of infant walkers and trampoline usage; and the proper storage of medications and poisons. Whether you address these issues on a one-on-one basis, in front of a large group, or by example, each of you can help make the difference in a child's life. Preventing injuries is so much easier than treating them.

If you have pediatric questions, please feel free to contact me at aklasner@peds.uab.edu.

Ann Klasner, MD, MPH
Pediatric Emergency Medicine
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PROTOCOL TRAINING REMINDER

Each EMS provider service is responsible for its employees' protocol update training. Remember! None of your advanced-level EMTs can use the new protocols until all EMT-Intermediates and EMT- Paramedics in your service have been trained.

Notify your Regional EMS Agency when your entire service is trained so that you can begin to use the new protocols!

NEMSIS UPDATE

Today, there are no third-party software vendors completely ready to go online; however, two of the vendors are very, very close to compliance. Special thanks to Chief Ezekiel and Capt. Mullins, Mountain Brook FD, for their diligence in getting Firehouse software near compliance. Also, thanks to Phillip Hosey with EMS Consultants for his hard work towards compliance and his invaluable help in making the Alabama validations the best they can be.

FYI....a questionnaire that will be coming to your service very soon! It's imperative that this be completed and returned to our office as soon as possible. Your quick response is critical to the success of the implementation plan for our new software.

COMPLIANCE & INVESTIGATIONS

Since June 1, 2007, the Office of Emergency Medical Services & Trauma has been involved in 9 new investigations.

- EMT- Basic, impairment – license suspension
- EMT-Basic, HIPPA violation – case turned over to Department of Justice, Office of Civil Rights
- EMT-Paramedic, crimes involving moral turpitude – EMT license surrendered
- EMT-Basic, exceeded scope of practice (I.V. therapy & EKG recognition)- 15 day suspension
- 4 other investigations involved service licenses- no licensure action taken
- 1 EMT-Paramedic investigation still on-going

Previous (prior to June 1) on-going investigations:

- EMT-Paramedic, student falsified clinical records – 120 day suspension
- Ambulance Driver, guilty of crimes involving moral turpitude-license surrender
- Impairment – voluntary and emergency suspension(s)

Reinstatement of license:

- Two EMT-Paramedics have each met all requirements under State EMS
- Rule 420-2-1-.21 Impaired EMTs and have been reinstated back to active status