

# From the State EMS Medical Director

March 2009

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*Updated Protocols and information always available at:*

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## Important Information from the Clinical Issues Committee of the State EMS Board

This is another in the series of irregularly scheduled EMS Medical Director updates from the Clinical Issues Committee of the State EMS Board. The Clinical Issues Committee met in February and the following items were approved at the EMS Board meeting. Minutes of each meeting are available on the State EMS website.

### Guideline Updates

#### 2009 Updates to Protocol Guidelines

The latest updates to the State protocol guidelines have been released and are on the state website for download and use.

### STEMI

State EMS Board supports the concept of EMS establishing destination guidelines for acute cardiovascular illnesses to locations with needed capabilities for rapid intervention and treatment. Efforts are under way by various organizations to develop a statewide STEMI and Stroke treatment system. These will ideally be listed as "Time Critical Illness" standards for expansion to include other illnesses and treatments as they develop.

### Online Medical Director's Course

Several online educational products are currently under review to provide CME that is EMS Medical Director specific. Our goal is to provide this online CME at no charge to EMS Medical Directors in Tennessee.

### Star of Life Awards

May 12, 2009 are the first State Wide Star of Life awards. These will be held at 6:30pm at the Sheraton Nashville, Downtown. The Awards will honor exceptional personnel from each of the eight Tennessee EMS regions. They will reunite EMS providers with the person they treated and discuss the patient's scenario. This event is timed to be a jump start to EMS week and to honor our EMS colleagues for the work that is too often overlooked.

## Ambulance Strike Teams

Tennessee deployed four Ambulance Strike teams to Kentucky for the recent ice storm. The deployment was extremely successful. Thank you, and job well done to all those who participated. The State is very confident that we will be able to offer Ambulance Strike Team training through a grant. More to follow.

## Medical Director's Conference

Planned with Fall TASA conference. Mike Shankle and Douglas Wolfberg will be back. Discussion will focus on Pandemic response in adults and pediatrics – medical and legal ethics. The Morning will be the Core Medical director's course, the afternoon will be devoted to Wolfberg and hot topics effecting the EMS community. The date will be October 5, 2009 and it is being held at the Opryland Radisson in Nashville.

## Tennessee Emergency Medical Awareness and Response

This Program (TEMAR) oversees and links such programs as EMITS, ESAR-VHP, and HRTS for disaster tracking. The program will enhance both disaster and patient tracking during a large scale event. I encourage each of you to sign up as a volunteer with the ESAR-VHP program. Registration is available at <http://www.MIVolunteerRegistry.org>.

Questions, Comments, Concerns can all be asked and addressed on the website:

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