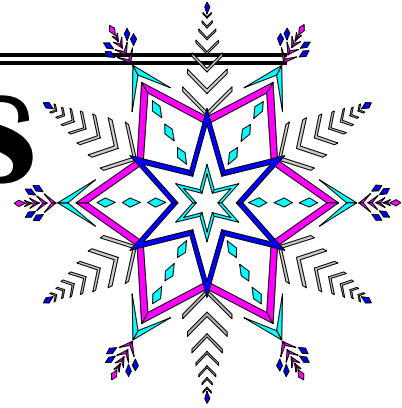




# Tri-County EMS Newsline



**FREE--Take One**

**December 2011**

## **“THE DOCTOR IS IN”**

### **Protocol Revision**

The State QA Task Force is reviewing the State Protocols for changes/additions. During this process they are also looking at suggestions made by Medical Control Authorities for improvements. The release date for these updated protocols is sometime in 2012.

### **2012 Golf Outing**

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our 2011 Golf Outing a success. The revenue from the golf outings is being tagged for an EMS Training Conference, which we hope to hold fall of 2012.

The 2012 TCEMCA golf outing is scheduled for Wednesday August 15, 2012, at Eldorado Golf Course on Howell Road in Mason, MI.

We are hoping for another successful outing, but we cannot do this without your support. We are asking agencies to help us with finding donations for give-away items for our golfers. Please contact the TCEMCA office if you are interested in helping us to collect the needed donations.



Over the past couple of years the adoption and implementation of State Model protocols and procedures, along with advances in equipment, has certainly brought forth a significant amount of change to EMS. These changes have provided pre-hospital personnel with more tools in their respective toolboxes; this in-turn has allowed for an improvement in patient care delivery.

Whether it is in the area of airway management (CPAP, King Airway), pain management (pre-radio), or cardiac and trauma care, advances in the delivery of EMS are clearly evident. However, in order to maximize the value of the new protocols and procedures, as well as the advances in equipment, it is imperative that the EMS provider be well prepared. As with most things, this can be accomplished via education, training, and experience.

With that said, please take every opportunity in which to improve your knowledge, skills, and abilities through protocol study sessions, continuing education offering, and practical experience.

Until next time, please keep up the good work, continue to improve as an EMS professional, and most importantly, stay safe out there.

*Dr. Orr is employed by the Emergency Department at Central Michigan Community Hospital in Mt. Pleasant and is a partner in 98point6 Emergicenter in the Lansing/East Lansing area. Dr. Orr is Board Certified in Emergency Medicine, and a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians. Best of all, he is a former paramedic.*

## TCEMCA Website

Please visit our website at [www.tcemca.org](http://www.tcemca.org). You will find our protocols, frequently needed links to EMS related websites, and our new addition of Continuing Education Opportunities. We also plan to post our newsletters on the website.

If your agency is running CE classes and would like them posted on our website, contact our office.

## From the CQI Coordinator

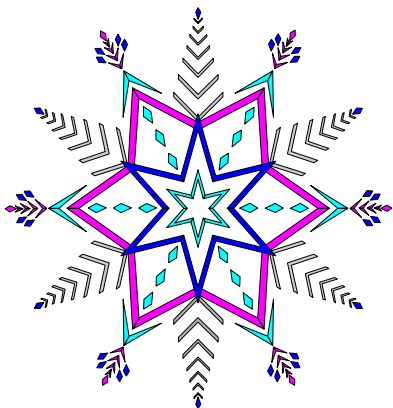
We at TCEMCA are currently collecting and examining an extensive amount of pre-hospital and in-hospital data as it relates to ST Elevated Myocardial Infarctions (STEMI). As you well know, EMS is an integral component in this process. The goal of this initiative is to improve the manner in which STEMI patients are treated throughout our system; we are working with our area hospitals and EMS agencies on a variety of levels in order to ensure that this occurs.

As many of you are aware, we at Tri-County possess agreements with our area hospitals that allow us to acquire updated patient outcome information in a rather expedient manner. Please do not hesitate to have your agency director representative contact us regarding patient outcome information.

Thank you and best wishes for a safe and prosperous 2012.

Mark A. Vroman, CQI Coordinator

**CQI is not about what we did wrong. CQI is about what we can do better.**



## Tri-County EMS Newslines

### From the Manager of Operations

2011 was a year of many accomplishments. In June, we implemented our system section of protocols, which completed our systems switch over to the State Protocols. Electronic report writing is in place at all of our agencies and information is being submitted to the State Repository where we can now begin gathering information more efficiently for our CQI Reports. The work for narrow banding of our communication system for field to hospital communications has begun. We have currently narrow banded Med 2, Med, 3 and Med 8. We have a grant request pending approval at the State level to fund the narrow banding of our system. As soon as we receive word on this grant application, we will move forward to complete the project and coordinate with the Hospital to narrow band the HERN Radios. Our desired timeline is to have this complete by June 2012,

Thank you for your support throughout 2011.

Michelle E. Harper, Manager of Operations

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### Your TCEMCA Staff

Dr. Bob Orr, FACEP, Medical Director

Michelle E. Harper, AEMT, Manager of Operations

Mark Vroman, AEMT, CQI Coordinator

Teri Hafner, Secretary

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### Important Upcoming Dates

#### 2012

January 17- Mission/Vision Statement Sub-Committee meeting

January 26 - EMS Conference Committee meeting

February 15, 2012 - Agency Directors meeting

If you have business to conduct at the Tri-County office, it is recommended that you call ahead to insure staff will be available to assist you. The office may be closed for portions of any day due to off-site meetings.