

2007 Broselow Tape 'A' lists error



Broselow Tapes have been used for years to help hospital staff quickly calculate dosages for children. Now comes word of an error on the Broselow Tape 2007 Edition A involving the glucagon dosage. The correct dosage for children 3-4-5 through white zones should be 0.5 mg and 1 mg instead of 0.5mg/kg/dose and 1.0mg/kg/dose. Simply mark out the 'kg/dose' for both of these glucagon dosages on the tape. The dosages for glucagon should read: Glucagon 0.5 mg (3-4-5 kg thru white zones) and 1 mg (blue thru green zones), with a maximum dose of 1 mg. The Broselow Tape 2007 Edition B does not have this error. A website dedicated to medication safety alerts has more information: www.ismp.org/newsletters/acutecare/archives/Apr09.asp.

How long for patient care reports?



Q: How long is an EMS provider required to store patient care reports?

A: EMS law/rules list no specific requirement regarding the patient care records and refer providers back to the rules covering record requirements maintenance by physicians. In most cases, the EMS provider owns the records for the physician medical director, and the EMS provider is required to maintain the records in a manner consistent with the Texas Medical Board requirements. The applicable Texas Medical Board rule is 22 TAC, §165.1 Medical Records (see www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/index.shtml, and select TAC viewer link). Select Title 22, Part 9, Chapter 165, §165.1.

Local Projects Grant Update



As of press time, the Office of EMS/Trauma Systems Coordination (OEMS/TS) has not received the LPG applications from the DSHS contract office. By policy, the contract office must screen applications before forwarding to us. As soon as we review and score the applications, we can make a recommendation for awards. Our goal is to announce awards sometime in August. Watch our website for updates. Each year, OEMS/TS awards about \$1 million in funding for EMS projects through a competitive application process. For more information, go to www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems and click on Funding Sources.

Website changing ... again

It seems like yesterday, but in fact it's been more than two years since EMS/trauma systems transitioned to the mandated website re-design from our oversight organization, the Health and Human Services Commission. We've been told that the website will be re-designed again this summer, with a launch date of October 2009. A contractor has been hired to re-design the site, but we'll try to keep as many of the same links as possible so you won't have to re-learn where everything is. At the same time, there are state and federal mandates requiring us to make all our pages accessible to those with disabilities. While that's a snap with most web pages, the Adobe Acrobat PDFs and Microsoft Word documents will have to be rebuilt from the ground up, and that may take a while. We will try to keep as much information on the website as possible, but it will not be possible to rebuild all the pages in the time we have. **Bottom line:** you may not find, for instance, an Education Committee agenda from 2005 on our website anymore. But if you need it, we'll be happy to send you a copy of it.



Red flag rules enforcement delayed

The Federal Trade Commission has delayed enforcement until August 1, 2009, of the Red Flag Rules for preventing identity theft. Any creditor (and that includes EMS providers) who extends credit must have a program in place to identify, detect and respond to 'red flags' patterns that indicate possible identity theft. (For more information, see the May/June issue of Texas EMS Magazine.) The rules say only that the program implemented must be appropriate to the size and complexity of the organization. No specific language, policies or procedures are required. So while a larger organization might need to develop a comprehensive, separate program, smaller organizations may be able to add the program to existing policies. The Federal Trade Commission will soon release a template to help smaller companies comply. You can find the template, along with other information about the "Red Flag Rules," at www.redflagrules.shtm.



Recertifying at National Registry?

NREMT has brochures that explain the NR recertification process for each level of NR certification at www.nremt.org/nremt/EMTServices/rereg_brochures.asp. NR certification is one option for recertification with DSHS. The other three current options for DSHS recertification are the written assessment exam, continuing education, or completion of a recertification course. For complete information on recertification with DSHS, go to www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/recertinfo.shtm. And remember, DSHS now does criminal background checks on all initial and recertification candidates.



On Duty

Mark your calendars: January 1, 2013

A big change is coming for paramedic programs. Beginning on January 1, 2013, all students who take the NREMT paramedic exam must have completed a nationally accredited paramedic program. (EMT-I, EMT and ECA programs are not affected by this.) Currently, only 15 of the 100 or so paramedic education programs in Texas are nationally accredited, but many programs are looking toward accreditation. Luckily, programs have more than three years to achieve the accreditation, which begins with a program of self-study and evaluation. And there are resources to help. In April, the National Association of EMS Educators and the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for EMS Professionals sponsored an accreditation workshop at UT Southwestern in Dallas. Forty-four people attended the two-day course, which gave attendees step-by-step instructions on how to get accreditation for paramedic programs. GETAC's Education Committee also will be holding information sessions about accreditation throughout the year. For more information about accreditation, go to www.coemsp.org or to www.naemse.org, or contact members of GETAC's Education Committee: www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/EducationCommittee.pdf.



The accreditation workshop in Dallas drew 44 participants for the two-day class.



Q: How do I submit a name change?

A: To submit a name change, go to www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/formsresources.shtm#EMS and scroll down to the Address/Name Change Form. Download, complete and return the form to:

EMS Certification & Licensing – MC 2835
Texas Dept. of State Health Services
PO Box 149347
Austin, TX 78714-9347

Or, fax it to EMS Certification and Licensing at (512) 834-6714. Or, email a scanned, signed form as an attachment to emscert@dshs.state.tx.us.

Q: I think my employer is not paying me for all the times I work. Can I file a complaint with DSHS?

A: Unfortunately, DSHS has no jurisdiction over employee work times or call-out procedures. If your inquiry is about payroll and compensation, you should start with the Texas Workforce Commission at www.twc.state.tx.us.

Grants available for ECA training

Good news – the Legislature again gave DSHS funds to help rural areas pay for ECA training for fiscal years 2010 and 2011. DSHS has a total of \$50,000 per fiscal year available for EMS training programs, registered first responder organizations (FROs), coordinators and instructors to conduct ECA courses in rural or underserved areas of the state lacking local EMS training resources. Grant funds cover the cost of instruction and textbooks, and other expenses such as printing and supplies. DSHS will accept grant applications on a first-come-first-served basis until the funds run out for each fiscal year. Eligibility requirements for ECAT grants: A minimum of three students; students must agree to perform emergency care attendant services for at least one year with a local emergency medical service provider or first responder organization; and services must be provided in a designated rural or underserved area of Texas, as determined by zip code or county. For more information, go to www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/TrainingFunding.shtm or contact Roxanne Cuellar at (512) 834-6700 ext. 2377 or roxanne.cuellar@dshs.state.tx.us.



Recently awarded grants:
North Lake Brownwood VFD EMS
County Line VFD & First Responders
City of Lorenzo (Lorenzo EMS)

New medical director chosen

Paul R. Hinchey, MD, MBA, was named medical director for the Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Systems. Dr. Hinchey is deputy medical director of Wake County EMS (Raleigh, N.C.) and has served as medical director of WakeMed Mobile Critical Care Air and Ground Services, WakeMed Emergency Services Institute Special Operations and WakeMed Health Hospitals; and medical director of the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians.

Dr. Hinchey is board-certified in emergency medicine. He received his medical and business degrees from the State University of New York-Buffalo in 2002. Hinchey replaces Edward Racht, MD, who left the position in November of 2008. Racht also served as chair of the Governor’s EMS and Trauma Advisory Council; the governor’s office has not yet named a replacement for Dr. Racht on GETAC.



Paul R. Hinchey, MD

2009 award nominations due October 6

Sure, we know it seems like a long way off – but now is the time to start looking around for people or organizations who might deserve a Texas EMS and trauma award. If you've been nominated or done the nominating, you know just how exciting it is when the awards are announced at Texas EMS Conference.



Each category honors a person or organization that exemplifies the best that EMS/trauma system has to offer. It's quite an honor to be nominated and to win. The categories and the explanations are listed below and on the nomination form. Once you've chosen the correct category, the rest is pretty easy. For more information, go to www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/09AwardsIntroduction.shtm.

Award Categories 2009

EMS Educator Award honors a state-certified EMS instructor or course coordinator who offers advanced EMS education in Texas.

EMS Medical Director Award honors a physician who has served as a medical director, on-line or off-line, for an EMS organization.

EMS Administrator Award honors an administrator, researcher or manager at the local, city, county, regional or state level who has made a positive contribution to EMS.

Public Information/Injury Prevention Award honors an EMS group or individual for outstanding achievement in public education or injury prevention.

Citizen Award honors a private citizen for a heroic lifesaving act or unique advocacy of EMS.

Private/Public Provider Award honors a ground or air organization that demonstrated a leadership role in EMS by achievement in areas of patient care, public access, medical control, disaster preparedness, public education and training.

Volunteer Provider Award honors an organization staffed by volunteers that assumed a leadership role in EMS by achievement in areas of patient care, public access, medical control, disaster preparedness, public education and training.

First Responder Award honors a first responder organization that assumed a leadership role in EMS by achievement in areas of patient care, public access, medical control, disaster preparedness, public education and training.

Air Medical Service Award honors a public or private air medical service in Texas, a leader in the field, that has demonstrated the highest standards in providing patient care to the citizens of Texas.

Outstanding EMS Person of the Year honors an EMS-certified person who has demonstrated uncommon leadership and courage in providing emergency medical service to the citizens of Texas.

Telecommunicator of the Year honors a person or team who handles a call or system event with a professionalism and efficiency that allowed the first responders on the scene to give the patients the best patient care possible. An individual or a team is eligible for the award.

Trauma Center Award honors a designated trauma facility in Texas that has demonstrated leadership and high standards in implementing injury prevention programs and providing trauma patient care to the citizens and visitors of Texas.

Regional Advisory Council Award honors a regional advisory council in Texas that has demonstrated leadership and high standards in improving emergency medical service to the citizens of Texas.



On Duty

STAR OF TEXAS NOMINATIONS DUE JULY 31

In 2003, the 78th Texas Legislature passed House Bill 1937, which created the Star of Texas Awards to honor first responders seriously injured or killed while performing their duties as peace officers, firefighters and emergency medical first responders. HB 1937 also designated September 11th of every year as Texas First Responders Day. The first Star of Texas awards were presented in 2004 to three Texas first responders, one for each category of first responder: emergency medical, fire, and law enforcement. The 79th Texas Legislature amended the original legislation to require awards for every first responder seriously injured or killed after

September 1, 2003. To be eligible for the award, the critical incident must have occurred between September 1, 2003 and June 30, 2009, and the individual must not have previously received a Star of Texas Award. The awards ceremony will be held in the fall. Deadline for nominations is July 31. For more info, go to http://governor.state.tx.us/cjd/star_awards.





Four receive emergency funding

Four EMS providers recently received emergency funding designed to help areas that have suffered devastating events. The Extraordinary Emergency Fund (EEF) is available to assist licensed EMS providers, hospitals and registered first responder organizations if unforeseeable events cause a degradation of service to the community. Situations that may severely reduce or incapacitate emergency response capability are considered extraordinary emergencies. For further information, please contact Roxanne Cuellar at Roxanne.cuellar@dshs.state.tx.us or (512) 834-6700, ext. 2377.

The following organizations were awarded Extraordinary Emergency Funding recently:

- Trenton VFD.** \$32,855 for a first responder vehicle
- Willacy Co EMS.** \$5,780 to replace ambulance engine
- City of Sanger Fire Dept.** \$15,000 to replace ambulance engine
- Windthorst VFD.** \$6,500 to purchase cardiac monitor/AED



9-1-1 materials available for kids

It's never too early to start teaching kids about the proper use of 9-1-1. The Commission for State Emergency Communications (a.k.a. the "9-1-1 commission") has information available in English and Spanish. Go to www.911.state.tx.us/kidshome.html.

Project aims to safely transport children in ambulances

Two areas of NHTSA are partnering to develop recommendations on how to safely transport children in ground ambulances. The NHTSA



Occupant Protection Division and NHTSA's Office of Emergency Medical Services have launched "Solutions for Safely Transporting Children in Emergency Vehicles," a two-year project that includes a literature review, development of draft recommendations and a national meeting to discuss and finalize the recommendations. A consulting group has been hired to work with NHTSA and national experts. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Sandy Sinclair of the NHTSA Occupant Protection Division at sandy.sinclair@dot.gov or Dave Bryson of the NHTSA Office of Emergency Medical Services at dave.bryson@dot.gov.

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)

Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark
4140 Governor's Row
Austin, TX 78744

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 9:00am - 10:30am | Stroke Committee |
| 10:30am - 12:00pm | Education Committee |
| 1:00pm - 2:30pm | Injury Prevention Committee |
| 2:30pm - 4:00pm | Trauma Systems Committee |
| 4:00pm - 5:30pm | Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Committee |

Thursday, August 20, 2009

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|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 9:00am - 10:30am | Cardiac Care Committee |
| 10:30am - 12:00pm | Air Medical Committee |
| 1:00pm - 2:30pm | Medical Directors Committee |
| 2:30pm - 4:00pm | Pediatrics Committee |
| 4:00pm - 5:30pm | EMS Committee |

Friday, August 21, 2009

9:00am-Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council