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# AMBUGLANCES

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VOL 25 NO 9

THE NUMBER ONE EMS REGION IN GEORGIA

NOVEMBER 2012

## RTAC FORMATION SHOWS PROGRESS

The EMS Council was informed that the initial stages of the formation of a Region 1 RTAC (Regional Trauma Advisory Council) are close to completion. The list of proposed members and board of directors will be presented and approved at the meeting of the RTAC Stakeholders meeting on November 29, 2012. Three subcommittees (pre-hospital, hospital and disaster) were formed to write parts of the Regional Trauma plan and will submit their segments at this meeting. The completed plan will be submitted to the Georgia Trauma Commission for approval.

Air Medical Utilization Guidelines is part of the submission. The first meeting of the newly formed RTAC will be on January 24, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Trinity Baptist Church in Calhoun.

## ALL EMS REGION 1 MEETINGS TO BE CENTRALIZED IN CALHOUN

Beginning in January, 2013 all regularly scheduled meetings for EMS Region 1 will be centralized at the Trinity Baptist Church on Georgia Highway 53 just south of Calhoun, Georgia. The meeting schedule for 2013 is as follows:

January 24, 2013  
April 25, 2013  
July 25, 2013  
October 24, 2013

The meeting schedule will be as follows:

0900 – 1000 EMS-C  
1000-1130 RTAC  
1100-1130 Executive Committee  
1130 – 1200 Meal  
1200 – 1400 (2P) EMS Council  
1400 – 1500 (3P) 501C3 Council

This schedule will begin on January 24, 2013. This change is to decrease expenses for those attending by consolidating all of the required quarterly meeting on the same day and location.

## SALT METHOD OF TRIAGE RECOMMENDED

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Georgia Emergency Medical Services Medical Director Advisory Council (EMSMDAC) has recommended that EMS Services begin to transition to the SALT method of triage instead of the START method currently used. A discussion of this method can be found at [http://www.ems.gov/pdf/2011/December/10-MUCC\\_Options\\_Paper\\_Final.pdf](http://www.ems.gov/pdf/2011/December/10-MUCC_Options_Paper_Final.pdf)

## DEADLINE LOOMS FOR EMS GRANTS

The annual Georgia EMS uncompensated care grant and the vehicle replacement grants from the Georgia Trauma Commission are available at <http://www.georgiatraumacommission.org/budgets/grants/> The deadline is December 14, 2012.

## ANGEL EMS DEPLOYS FOR HURRICANE SANDY

Angel EMS has deployed for the second time this year in response to national disasters. Around midnight Sunday October 28<sup>th</sup>, Angel EMS left Ft Oglethorpe with 5 Ambulances, 10 crew members and CEO/President DeWayne Wilson enroute to Ft Dix, New Jersey to an AMR/FEMA Staging area.



The crews arrived at Ft Dix around 5P Monday October 29<sup>th</sup>, approximately 2 hrs prior to the center of the storm reaching them. At the height of the storm, their location was on the right side flank of the eye, resulting in some of the heaviest rain and winds around the storm. At 830PM that date via text with Region 1 OEMS&T Program Director, David Foster, Mr. Wilson reported that the storm was one of the worst that he had deployed to.

We wish the crews a safe deployment and return to the region.



## **NORTHWEST GEORGIA EMS SYSTEMS INC FORMED**

A not-for-profit 501C3 corporation has been formed in Georgia EMS Region 1. The corporation has been named Northwest Georgia EMS Systems Inc. and was formed to raise and disperse funds for training and other events in Georgia EMS Region 1. The bylaws have been written, the Advisory Council has been formed and the Board of Directors will be named at the first meeting on January 24, 2013. The scheduled meetings of this corporation will occur immediately after the regularly scheduled EMS Council meetings beginning on January 24, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

## **BEST PRACTICE FOR SEDATION ASSISTED INTUBATION FORMED**

EMSMDAC has created a best practice document for sedation assisted intubation for EMS services. The document will be released soon and will be posted on the library section of the EMS Region 1 website.

## **LIGHTS AND SIREN PUBLIC SERVICE VIDEO TO BE RELEASED SOON**

A public service video will be released soon to the media to explain that all patients do not have to be transported to the hospital with lights and siren. This is part of an effort to decrease the unnecessary use of lights and siren by ambulances. A vehicle accident from the use of lights and sirens by ambulances creates the highest risk for injury to patients, EMS crews and the public. It also raises the vehicle insurance rates and is a potential cause of lawsuits.

## **AIR MEDICAL SERVICE GUIDELINES TO BE A PART OF RTAC PLAN**

The pre-hospital subcommittee of the RTAC stakeholders has created an Air Medical Service Guidelines to be a part of the RTAC Regional Trauma Plan for EMS Region 1. The guidelines include when to call for air transport by medical air transport services and other elements of medical air transport. The document will be submitted in late November or early December to the Georgia Trauma Commission for approval as part of the Regional Trauma Plan.

## **DEADLINE FOR EMS TRAINING PROGRAM ACCREDITATION LOOMS**

CAAHEP's Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) has implemented a Letter of Review (LoR) process, which will be the official designation that a Paramedic program is in the process of "Becoming Accredited". EMS Programs that have not completed the national accreditation process by December 31, 2012 must have a LoR on file for paramedic candidates to be eligible to National EMS Certification in 2013. Paramedic candidates that will certify in 2013 but have not successfully completed a nationally accredited program (or one with a LoR on file) which started after December 31, 2012 may become permanently ineligible for EMS licensure in some states.