
AMBUGLANCES

VOL 25 NO 7

THE NUMBER ONE EMS REGION IN GEORGIA

SEPTEMBER 2012

TIME IS ALMOST UP FOR RELICENSURE

September 30, 2012 is the deadline for re-licensure of all levels of EMS personnel in Georgia. Please visit the Office of EMS and Trauma website for the details on how to achieve re-licensure at

<http://www.ems.ga.gov>

A checklist is available for required update modules available on the Georgia Office of EMS and Trauma EMS classroom.

[Click here for the list.](#)



SEPTEMBER 11 CEREMONIES TAKE PLACE IN REGION 1

Pictured above are Floyd EMS Paramedic Don Taylor (r) and Floyd County Sheriff Department Chief Deputy Tom Caldwell (l) placing a wreath at the Public Safety Memorial in Rome on

September 11th. Many other similar observances of the loss of life in the civilian, military and public safety personnel from the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001 were held in EMS Region 1.

RTAC COMMITTEES CONTINUE TO MEET TO DEVELOP REGIONAL TRAUMA PLAN

The first stakeholder meeting for the Regional Trauma Advisory Committee was held in Calhoun at the Trinity Baptist Church on August 17, 2012. Two other RTAC stakeholder meetings are scheduled before the regularly scheduled EMS Council meeting in January, 2013. The meetings will be held at the same location from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on October 3 and November 29, 2012. The goal is to develop a Regional Trauma Plan to be submitted to the EMS Council for approval at the January, 2013 meeting. Three working groups have been formed to work on the plan – Hospital, Pre-hospital and Disaster Resources. The first meeting of the Pre-hospital working group is scheduled for October 3, 2012 in Calhoun at the Trinity Baptist Church from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

REMAINING RTAC MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR 2012

The remaining RTAC stakeholder meetings for 2012 have been scheduled for October 3 and November 29, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Calhoun, Georgia. Please plan to attend to provide input in developing a regional trauma plan. For more details, contact Mike Willingham at mikewillingham30298@yahoo.com

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND PUBLIC SAFETY DAY SCHEDULED AT MOUNT BERRY SQUARE MALL IN ROME

An Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Day will be hosted by the Georgia Public Health Office and Mount Berry Square Mall on September 22, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Floyd County Sheriff's Office will present a child ID program. The Floyd County Safe Kids Coalition will present a bike rodeo and a firehouse program. The Georgia State Patrol will present a program on child car seat education. Many other public

safety agencies will have exhibits.



TRANSPORT OF BARIATRIC PATIENTS DISCUSSED BY REGION 1 COUNCIL

Bariatric patients present two problems for EMS. They are classified as special needs patients by the Americans with Disabilities Act which requires EMS to make provisions for their care and transport. In addition they present a potential source of back and musculoskeletal injuries for EMS workers. Paul Arnold discussed a new Bariatric Patient transport policy by Dade County EMS. He will display new equipment and explain the policy at the January 2013 EMS Council meeting. Five percent of 500,000 EMS workers in the U.S. suffer on the job injuries. Almost half are 25-34 years old and most suffer back and musculoskeletal injuries.

THE FUTURE OF ENDOTRACHEAL INTUBATION DISCUSSED BY EMSMDAC

Dr Jill Mabley, Assistant Medical Director of Georgia Office of EMS discussed the many discussions on the role of endotracheal intubation for EMS in Georgia. The two main issues are how to adequately learn the skill and how to safely perform the skill on patients. EMSMDAC did not approve RSI techniques but is working on creating a best practices document on sedative drug assisted intubation which is being used by 1/3 of Georgia EMS Services. The problem of obtaining clinical practice on live patients has become so difficult that many schools apply for waivers which still require at least one live intubation. Skill retention is also a problem with only 3,000 intubations occurring in 2011 by Georgia EMS services. Jim Jordon from Glidescope presented a program on the device which used live video from a fiber optic laryngoscope to insert the endotracheal tube. This device may increase the safety of the procedure. Alternative devices such as esophageal obturator devices are being discussed as safer alternatives to endotracheal intubation. The next EMSMDAC meeting will be on October 23, 2012 in Atlanta at the Atlanta Fire and EMS Headquarters near the Atlanta Airport. See also the minutes of the last Council meeting on the Council page under the information tab at <http://www.nwgaems.org>