



Maryland EMS News

Vol. 27, No. 4

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

April 2001

EMS Week in Maryland: May 20-26, 2001



EMS Week Theme

This year Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week 2001 will be celebrated throughout the

nation May 20-26. This year's theme, "EMS: Answering the Call," emphasizes the responsiveness of emergency medical services around the country, while underscoring the importance of the national 9-1-1 emergency number system. Maryland has more than 29,000 certified/licensed prehospital care providers. Maryland, like other states throughout the country, will honor the commitment of these EMS providers who serve their communities and highlight many of their life-saving achievements.

Activities

Throughout EMS week, state and local activities will be held honoring EMS providers (paramedics, emergency medical technicians, first responders such as firefighters, police, citizen bystanders). EMS providers also will educate the public about injury prevention, safety awareness, and medical emergencies. (Contact your MIEMSS regional administrators for information on activities planned in your area.)

At its annual Maryland's Stars of Life Awards Presentation, MIEMSS will once again honor men and women across the state who have contributed to Maryland's EMS system. Awards nominations are requested (see pages 3-4 of this newsletter) for the following categories: Star of Life Award, EMS Citizen Award, EMS Provider of the Year, EMD Provider of the Year, Outstanding EMS Program, Leon W. Hayes Award for Excellence in EMS, and the Maryland EMS-C Award.

EMS-C Day

This year, for the first time, one day during EMS Week—Wednesday, May 23—will be devoted to the special needs of children. On this National EMS-C Day, activities and events are being planned that focus specifically on child safety and injury prevention. (Again, contact your MIEMSS regional administrators for specific activities being planned for your area.)

In addition, prior to EMS Week, the American Heart Association (AHA) will host a National CPR Weekend on April 28-29. Participants in the mass CPR training at more than 100 sites across the United States will receive the AHA basic 2-hour CPR training course free or for a low cost. For sites scheduled in Maryland, call the American Heart Association National Center (214-706-1312) or toll-

free 1-877-AHA-4CPR. The web site is www.americanheart.org (then click on Learn CPR).

EMS Week Sponsors

The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) is the organizational sponsor of the annual campaign, along with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program.

The National Fire Protection Association is a new partner this year joining the American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians, American Ambulance Association, Congressional Fire Services Institute, Emergency Nurses Association, International Association of Fire Chiefs, International Association of Fire Fighters, National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Directors, National Association of EMS Educators, National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT), National Association of EMS Physicians, National Council of State EMS Training Coordinators, Inc., National Volunteer Fire Council, and the US Fire Administration.

EMS Regional Offices in Maryland

REGION I

- Allegany and Garrett counties
- Region I Office in Grantsville, 301-895-5934

REGION II

- Frederick and Washington counties
- Region II Office in Hagerstown, 301-791-2366 or 301-416-7249

REGION III

- Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard counties
- Region III Office at MIEMSS in Baltimore, 410-706-3996

REGION IV

- Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester counties
- Region IV Office in Easton 410-822-1799 or 1-877-676-9617 (toll-free)

REGION V

- Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, and St. Mary's counties
- Region V Office in College Park, 301-474-1485 or 1-877-498-5551 (toll-free)

Ideas for EMS Week



As you plan this year's EMS Week events, you should keep in mind the following goals:

- Educate the public about the EMS system and its appropriate use;
- Educate the public about injury prevention, and how to recognize and respond to a medical emergency; and
- Show appreciation for the contributions of every member of the EMS team.

Seasonal Safety Tips. Prepare fact sheets on seasonal safety, such as summer safety (swimming, boating, skating, and cycling), winter safety (skiing, frostbite, and hypothermia). You might also create safety tip sheets for special occasions such as Halloween (Trick or Treat), Prom Night (Drinking and Driving), and the Fourth of July (Fireworks). (See National Fact Sheet on Scooters and Rollerblades on page 5.)

Infant CPR. Consider an evening lecture for parents about infant care and emergency techniques that might be helpful.

Stage a Mock Emergency. Have EMS providers pretend to have been in an automobile, lightning, boating, or drowning accident, and show how the EMS system would help them.

Outdoor Search and Rescue. Teach children how to avoid getting lost while hiking or picnicking, how to make it easier for rescue teams to spot them, and how to survive, plus what to take on outdoor trips for health and safety.

Fun Run. Everybody loves a 5K or a 10K. Walking events bring all ages, but running events excite jogging enthusiasts.

Photo Displays. For those who can't make it in person, set up photos of your emergency department, ambulance, and other EMS functions for display at local libraries, schools, and shopping malls.

Shopping Mall Displays. Your EMS personnel can spend a day at a local shopping mall, handing out materials and answering questions about EMS. You can display rescue equipment, ambulances, transport helicopters, etc.; provide breathalyzer demonstrations, BP checks, safety information, etc.

Safety Days and Open Houses. Consider holding a "Meet the Lifesavers" open house or an "EMS Awareness" fair. Both offer a great opportunity for EMS personnel to explain the valuable role they play on the EMS team. Providing services to the community at the open house or fair is another way for citizens to meet their community's EMS providers. Some of the following services could be included: free blood pressure/glucose testing clinics; I.D. fingerprinting for children; medical I.D. cards or "Vials of Life" for senior citizens; free safety checks (car seats, bicycles, smoke detectors, first aid kits, etc.).

Preregistration Campaign. Volunteer to register mature adults and other at-risk people in your service area, glean medical histories, current medication, etc. The community will love it, and you'll have the information on file.

Classroom Talks. Encourage teachers to invite your EMS personnel to their classrooms to talk about emergency medicine.

Brown Bag Day. Invite people to bring their medications to the Emergency Department Open House or EMS Health Fair in a brown bag. Doctors will check whether the medication is dated and make sure the patient is not inappropriately mixing medications.

Home Safety Program. Have EMS personnel give a lecture on home safety, including pediatric and geriatric information, medical tips, and general safety ideas.

Media Outreach. Pitch your events to local media. Invite reporters to your open house health fair. Ask a reporter to participate in an ambulance ride-along or write a feature on "A Day in the Life of a Lifesaver."





MARYLAND'S STARS OF LIFE AWARDS

Each year the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems celebrates EMS Week by honoring men and women across Maryland who have contributed to the EMS system. We use the term "Stars of Life" because it combines our symbol, the Star of Life, with our shared vision, "the elimination of preventable death and disability from injury or sudden illness." This year we are again opening the award nomination process to everyone who receives the *Maryland EMS News*. Awardees will be selected by a statewide committee of career and volunteer EMS providers. For further information, call 410-706-3994.

The categories of Maryland Star of Life, Maryland EMS Citizen, EMS Provider of the Year, and EMD Provider of the Year relate to specific incidents occurring from March 1, 2000 to February 28, 2001. Multiple awards may be presented.

MARYLAND STAR OF LIFE AWARD

This award may be given to an individual, multiple individuals, or teams on the same incident for an outstanding rescue by EMS personnel.

MARYLAND EMS CITIZEN AWARD

This award is intended for citizen rescuers who have demonstrated quick thinking, fast action, and heroism.

EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

For a provider who has made outstanding contributions in the past year to the continuous improvement of emergency medical services in Maryland (for example, in the areas of quality assurance; public or EMS education; prevention; delivery of EMS services; new technology).

EMD PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

This award is given for extraordinary efforts in assisting the public in this vital portion of the Chain of Survival.

OUTSTANDING EMS PROGRAM

For a program that offers an innovative approach to reducing death and disability. The program must be affiliated with an EMS system component, such as a hospital, educational facility, rescue squad, or EMS organization.

LEON W. HAYES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EMS

This award is given to an individual who demonstrates through his professional and personal life, dedication to excellence in patient care, compassion and respect for each patient, and commitment to continuous improvement of the Maryland EMS system in education and in prevention.

MARYLAND EMS-C AWARD

This award is given for an individual or program that has demonstrated excellence in affecting the EMS care for children in Maryland.



MARYLAND'S STARS OF LIFE AWARDS — 2001 NOMINATION FORM

Individual(s)/Organization(s) Nominated: _____

If there is more than one nominee, please duplicate this form or use a separate sheet for the other names and addresses and attach it to this form.

* **Address:** _____

(P.O. Box or Street)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

* **Telephone Nos.** _____ (H) _____ (W)

Nominee's Level of Certification or Licensure (if applicable) _____

Professional Affiliation _____ **Telephone No.** _____

Award Category:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maryland Star of Life Award | <input type="checkbox"/> EMS Provider of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Leon W. Hayes Award |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maryland EMS Citizen Award | <input type="checkbox"/> EMD Provider of the Year | for Excellence in EMS |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding EMS Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Maryland EMS-C Award |

This individual/group/program/facility is being nominated for outstanding recognition because:

Please attach additional documentation such as newspaper articles, video footage, and letters of commendation.

Name of person submitting this nomination:

_____ (Print or Type)

_____ (Signature)

_____ (Address)

* **Telephone Nos.** _____ (H) _____ (W)

FAX Nos. _____ (H) _____ (W)

* Must be completed!!

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT MIEMSS BY April 17, 2001.
Mail to: Jim Brown, MIEMSS, 653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536
or FAX to: Jim Brown, 410-706-3485.

Scooters and Rollerblades



As with any sport, practice is important. Once you've purchased your scooter or in-line skates, it's important to take the time to learn how to operate them properly and safely. Here are some tips:

IN-LINE SKATING/ROLLERBLADING SCOOTER RIDING

1. Always wear your protective gear—helmet, wrist protection, elbow pads, kneepads.
 2. Master the basics—striding, stopping, and turning.
 3. Keep your equipment in proper working order.
 4. Obey all traffic regulations. When on skates, you should consider yourself subject to the same rules of the road as a cyclist or a driver of an automobile.
 5. Skate under control at all times.
 6. Watch out for road hazards.
 7. Avoid water, oil, and sand.
 8. Avoid traffic.
 9. Skate on the right, pass on the left.
 10. Announce your intentions by saying, "passing on your left."
 11. Always yield to pedestrians.
 12. Avoid hills and declines when you're first starting out. You can build up speed on even a slight decline, so you should feel confident in your braking ability before you head for the hills.
1. Always wear an approved helmet, knee and elbow pads.
 2. Never ride at dusk or night.
 3. Avoid wet or icy road conditions.
 4. Begin at a speed and at angles that you're comfortable with.
 5. Learn to stop with the rear fender brake, and by lowering one foot to the ground.
 6. Don't take chances: water, speed bumps, gravel, etc. are dangerous and can also damage your scooter.
 7. Tricks and stunts come with lots of practice. Don't try any daring moves until you're really ready to handle them.
 8. Never ride in traffic.
 9. Always yield to pedestrians (and be on the lookout for other obstructions, such as skaters or bikers).
 10. When about to pass, always announce your intentions by saying, "passing on your left."
 11. Before climbing aboard, check out all the bolts, steer tube extension, and handle bars to make sure they're securely fastened.
 12. Keep your equipment well maintained.

Take a lesson

The best way to start any new sport is to take a lesson with an instructor. Many shops that carry rollerblades and scooters offer instructional clinics. Or you might ask a knowledgeable friend to teach you. Sometimes community or adult educational centers and local retailers will offer lessons. If you aren't able to take a lesson, you may want to purchase a book or video to introduce you to the sport. The more you know, the safer you'll be and the more fun you'll have!

Gearing Up

Protective equipment helps you feel more confident and relaxed when you're riding or skating. . . you also took pretty cool too! Make sure your riding gear is durable and securely fitted.

Here are the essentials:

- **Helmet**—Helps prevent injury to all areas of the head. Must be buckled and fit snugly to be effective. Should be rated or approved by a nationally recognized standard.
- **Knee Pads**—Must be strapped around leg securely so pad does not come off during sliding.
- **Elbow Pads**—Gives protection in sideways falls.
- **Proper Shoes**—Never wear flip-flops or sandals. Sneakers are good, but should be tightly laced at all times.
- **Wrist Protection**—For skaters, wrist protection also is a good idea. When you lose your balance you should try to fall forward. Wrist protection promotes sliding, and distributes the impact.

"Gearing up" mentally before skating or scooter riding is just as important as gearing up physically. Always follow the Rules of the Road!

Disciplinary Actions

Beginning with this issue, the *Maryland EMS News* will include a section listing final disciplinary actions by the EMS Board.

The EMS Board assumed responsibility for EMS Provider discipline when COMAR 30.02.05 became effective on January 1, 1999. Since that time the disciplinary matters have been investigated by the Incident Review Committees of MIEMSS, reviewed by the Provider Review Panel, and acted upon by the EMS Board under the provisions of COMAR 30.02.05.

The final actions involving providers listed in this issue cover the period from January 1, 1999 through the present. Future editions of the *Maryland EMS News* will list new disciplinary actions.

Final actions become part of the provider's certification or licensure record, are available to the public, and are reported to the federal Health Integrity and Protection Data Bank maintained by the United States Department of Health and Human Services under federal regulations contained in 45 CFR part 61.

Jurisdictions are reminded to check with MIEMSS for an update on a provider's standing before allowing affiliation.

The following final actions were taken on the dates indicated:

B-1999-007—(EMT-B)—August 19, 1999. (By Disposition Agreement) Reprimanded and placed on probation from July 13, 1999 for 6 months or until completion of remedial actions for administration of medication outside of protocol.

B-1999-038—(EMT-B)—August 12, 1999. Suspension of EMT-B certification for 60 days from July 13, 1999 for refusal to transport hepatitis-positive patient.

B-1999-039—(EMT-P)—September 13, 1999. (By Disposition Agreement). Reprimand and requirement to complete remedial measures for requesting an order not to render aid to a motor crash victim.

B-1999-045—(EMT-B)—January 18, 2000. Revocation of EMT-B certification for conviction of murder, theft, and perverted practice and failure to disclose convictions on application.

B-1999-051—(EMT-P)—January 12, 2000. (By Disposition Agreement) Suspension of EMT-P license for one year beginning March 30, 1999 and requirement to complete remedial measures during suspension period for striking patient.

B-1999-052—(CRT)—February 8, 2000. Reprimand for falsification of MAIS data.

R-2000-060—(EMT-P)—November 14, 2000. (By Disposition Agreement) Suspended for 30 days and required to take remedial measures for administration of medication outside of protocol.

B-2000-065—(EMT-B)—November 14, 2000. Certification revoked for taking First Responder exam for another person.

B-2000-068—(EMT-P)—September 20, 2000. Placed on probation pending completion of remedial training and successful demonstration of skills for failure to meet standards of care for delivery of quality emergency medical services.

B-2000-079—(EMT-B)—February 13, 2001. Certification revoked for conviction of murder.

R-1999-053—(EMT-B)—September 20, 2000. Reprimand for falsification of MAIS data.

R-1999-054—(EMT-B)—February 24, 2000. Revocation of

EMT-B certification for conviction of theft and burglary.

R-2000-056—(EMT-P)—June 13, 2000. Reprimand for providing EMT-P services on lapsed license.

R-2000-058—(EMT-P)—June 13, 2000. Suspension of EMT-P license for 60 days from July 1, 2000 for failure to disclose misdemeanor conviction on application for renewal of license.

R-2000-059—(EMT-B)—June 13, 2000. Revocation of EMT-B certification for conviction of possession of child pornography.

Certification/License Renewal Notices

In compliance with COMAR 30.02.02.07, the MIEMSS Office of Education, Licensure, and Certification is mailing a renewal notice to all EMS providers—EMT-Basics, First Responders, Cardiac Rescue Technicians, and EMT-Paramedics—approximately 100 days before their certification or license expires. This notice contains a list of the providers' current continuing education totals on file at MIEMSS. Please review this notice and be certain that you have met the required CEU totals for your level of certification. If your totals meet or exceed the required totals, as outlined on the notice, you will be receiving your renewed provider ID card within 30 days of your current expiration date. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Education, Licensing, and Certification at 800-762-7157.



(L-r) Dr. Robert Bass (Executive Director of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems), House Speaker Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Roberta Markley (former patient admitted to the trauma center at Western Maryland Health System's Memorial Hospital), Melissa Meyers (trauma nurse coordinator at Western Maryland Health System's Memorial Hospital), Mary Beachley (MIEMSS Director of Hospital Programs and State Trauma Coordinator). Dr. Bass, Ms. Markley, Ms. Meyers, and Ms. Beachley went to Annapolis March 21 to explain Maryland's EMS, trauma, and specialty care system to state legislators.

Two months earlier Ms. Markley, a resident of Severn in Anne Arundel County, along with four companions, was involved in a head-on collision more than 200 miles from home, on snow-covered I-68 in Garrett County. Ms. Markley, speaking from her experience, is grateful that Maryland has a statewide EMS system in place. Worried about the \$7.2 million deficit projected for the EMS system next fiscal year, she went to Annapolis to tell her story and urge legislators to support legislation to increase the vehicle registration fee surcharge to prevent the EMS funding shortfall.



Lt. Glenn Hansen, Howard County Police Department, George Miller, Maryland State Highway Administration, and Battalion Chief Stephen Ricker, Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services, presented the opening session at the Maryland Highway Safety Conference on March 19, 2001. Their presentation, "From Impact to Indictment," gave the full picture of what happens when a crash occurs, from the fire and rescue aspects to the police investigation to highway safety measures that are taken to help rectify the traffic concerns. In the case discussed, which occurred at Thunder Hill Road and Route 175, the results led to the installation of Red Light Running cameras in Howard County.

EMS Cardiac Arrest Reporting

Continued thanks to the EMS providers, Jurisdictional AED/Cardiac Arrest coordinators, Regional Administrators, and Jurisdictional Advisory Committee members for your efforts in distributing and completing the EMS Cardiac Arrest forms. As of March 15, 2001, we have received 7 Facility AED reports, and EMS Cardiac Arrest forms for 541 incidents, from EMS providers throughout the state.

As a reminder, the highest level provider filling out a Maryland Ambulance Information System (MAIS) form should also complete an EMS Cardiac Arrest form for a cardiac arrest patient, whether the patient is transported by that unit or not. For example, if a BLS and ALS unit respond to the same cardiac arrest call and each fill out a MAIS form, then both should fill out a supplemental cardiac arrest form. Both sets of MAIS and cardiac arrest forms should then be faxed to MIEMSS.

If you are faxing from a hospital, please include your name and contact phone number on the cover page.

We plan to provide quarterly summaries to all Jurisdiction Quality Councils and others. The first quarterly report will be distributed in April.

Thanks for your continued help!

MIEMSS Epidemiology Office
Phone: 877-937-7724
Fax: 410-706-4366
Pager: 410-475-8433



EMS Care 2001

April 27-29, 2001
Greenbelt Marriot Hotel

For more information call:
MIEMSS Region V Office
301-474-1485
or
Toll-free: 1-877-498-5551



Governor Parris N. Glendening

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**Address Correction Requested
MIEMSS, Maryland EMS News**

DATED MATERIAL



Governor Parris N. Glendening declared February as "Maryland Volunteer Fire, Rescue & Emergency Medical Services Month," in recognition of the countless services provided by the men and women of the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA). In a presentation at the MSFA Executive Committee, Bill Barnard, the Governor's representative, presented the proclamation to the Recruitment and Retention chairperson, Marcine C. Goodloe, President Roger A. Steger, Sr., First Vice-President Charles "Jenks" Mattingly III, and Second Vice-President Gene Worthington.

This presentation also marked the start of the campaign for the statewide volunteer recruitment effort, 1-800-FIRE-LINE. To assist with this program, 30-second and one-minute Public Service Announcements (PSAs) were produced by MIEMSS and the MSFA, with the assistance of Governor Parris N. Glendening. The PSAs stress the importance of the need for volunteer emergency responders and the great service that they provide the state of Maryland.

The toll-free 1-800-FIRE-LINE is part of a national recruiting effort for emergency response services volunteers by the National Volunteer Fire Council. The MSFA's Recruitment and Retention Committee is implementing this toll-free number in Maryland to urge people to volunteer and make a difference in their communities. Individuals calling 1-800-FIRE-LINE in Maryland are connected to the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. Information from each caller is then passed to a local volunteer fire, rescue, or emergency medical services company that will then contact the original caller.

Prehospital Providers, Nurses, Physicians—

Come to the beach & enjoy Ocean City's second season & Sunfest while attending a conference on current trauma topics.

Peninsula Regional Medical Center & Its Division of Trauma

Present the

12th Annual Trauma Conference

September 21-22, 2001

at the

Roland E. Powell
Convention Center
Ocean City, Maryland

Continuing Education
Credits Awarded

Contact:

Lisa Hohl,

Trauma Coordinator
Peninsula Regional Medical Center

410-543-7328