



**EMS
UPDATE**

March 20, 21, 22

***Pennsylvania's
Largest EMS
Gathering***

Registration Brochure



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8:00am—9:00am	9:15am—10:15am	10:30am—11:30am	11:45am—12:15pm	1:30pm—2:30pm
LVAD—Dr. Ben Williams	Burnout in the Field—Dr. Anthony Battista	Care in Geriatrics—Dr. Chuck Feronti	Intubation Bloopers—Dr. Dylan Morris	Stigma of Mental Health—Matt Giacopelli
Things Kids Put in Their Mouths—Dr. Ji Lee	Changing Trauma Care—Dr. Josh Brown	Role of EMS in Stroke Care—Dr. Nirav Bhatt	Post Cardiac Arrest Care—Alaina Martini	Sports Medicine for SWAT—Clay Ondrizek
EKGs—Gene Giraulo	Athletic Cardiac Arrest—Chase Canter	EMS Incident Command—Adam Palmer	Imodium - Kathleen Kern	Resuscitation Trivia—Dr. Phil Nawrocki
Interventions in Acute Trauma Dr. Adam Frisch	Psychostimulant Toxicity—Dr. Tony Pizon	Child Having a Seizure—Dr. Angeliz Monroig		Acid Base Disorders—Dr. Tyler McCardell
mRACE Assessment—Dr. Nirav Bhatt	Altered Child—Dr. Ursula Parlin	Austere EMS—Dr. Keith Conover		Vaginal Bleeding—Dr. Danielle Levine

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**EXHIBIT HALL
OPEN**

**FRIDAY
9:15am— 4:00pm**

8:00am—9:15am	10:00am—11:00am	11:15am—12:15pm
KEYNOTE PRESENTATION—Donnie Woodyard	Role of BLS in MCIs—Justin Beal	Mental & Physical Health—Rob Druga
	Art of Medical Command—Dr. Chadd Nesbit	Focus on QRS—Dr. T. McCardell
	Breathing Easy—Dr. Aleksander Keller	End of Life Care & EM Heather Valente
	Improving Tourniquet Use—Dr. Peter Allen	Wilderness Medicine Dr. Ryan McLoughlin
	Rare Diseases—Brian Kosczuk	Prehospital Deliveries Dr. Danielle Levine

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8:30am—10:00am	10:15am—11:15am	11:30am—12:30pm
Lessons from Rally—multiple	Civil Unrest—Wes Semple	Evolution of Prehospital Care—Dr. Sharon Klapec
	Infectious Diseases—Kayla Resh	Aortic Dissection—Dr. Brian Risavi
	Non Invasive Ventilations—Dr. Lamantia	Vital Signs—Dr. Matthew Lovell
	Journey Thru Cardiac Arrest—Rickens Pollock	Prehospital Falls—Tom Su
	Patient is Crashing—Dr. Owen Traynor	Diabetics—Dr. Rickquel Tripp

2:45pm—3:45pm	4:00pm—5:15pm
Updates in Trauma Care—Dr. Al Philp	KEYSTONE PRESENTATION—Dr. Ben Abo
Mystery Diagnosis—Cassandra Asberry	
Lab Values—Ryan Senica	
Research and Protocols—Dr. Martin-Gill	
Traffic Incident Management—Justin Eberly	

**EXHIBIT HALL
OPEN**

**THURSDAY
5:15pm—6:45pm**

	1:00pm—1:30pm	1:45pm—2:45pm	3:00pm—4:00pm	4:15pm—5:15pm	5:30pm—6:30pm
	Death Notifications—Mo Pittser	STEMI or Not—Dr. Martin-Gill	Something for Pain—Dr. Catherine Toro	Posterior Strokes—Brad Dean	Care for the Envenomed—Dr. Ben Abo
tyler	Ultrasound in EMS—Dr. Ryan McLoughlin	Pedi Cardiac Arrest—Dr. Sylvia Owusu—Ansah	Defensive Driving—Justin Eberly	Pedi Trauma—Dr. Rebecca Greenstein	Livin ‘Davita’ Loca—Jonathon Jenkins
MS—	End Tidal CO2—Dr. Rebecca Greenstein	Lifelong Learning in EMS—Jenkins Family	Blood Administration—Dr. Vince Mosesso	ECMO—Dr. Matt Poremba	
e—	Chat with Regional MD—Dr. Rick Wadas	Understanding the EMS COMPACT—Woodyard	2025 Protocol Development Dr. Bledsoe	Why Can’t I Get a Raise?—Eric Schmidt	
ns—		Dying to Thriving—Talo Capuzzi	Youth in EMS—Elizabeth Mathew	DOH BEMS Update—Anthony Martin	

1:30pm—2:30pm	2:45pm—3:45pm
Difficult Prehospital Scenarios—Hogg et al	Weed the People—Brad Dean
Traumatic Cardiac Arrest—Dr. Jerrard	Care of Injured K9 Officers—Dr. Chopra
Legal Ethical Considerations—Justin Beal	Role of BLS during Intubation—Matt Horton
Care for Neurodiverse—Tiffany Vargo	
Nerve Agents—Dr. Jonathan McMahon	



You must complete all of the requirements in each class to receive credit. Your CEU will automatically be applied to your PA certification/recognition. Updated information on each session and con-ed is available at the conference website, www.emsupdate.com. EMS con-ed in Pennsylvania has three categories: clinical patient care (CPC), other (O), and EMSVO. We have applied for continuing education credits for each session.

In some instances, continuing education titles on your continuing education status report may differ from the titles listed in this brochure.

You receive continuing education for the content of the course, not necessarily the title of the course.

Course descriptions are provided by speakers and are presented without edit, except for space requirements.

Educational costs are underwritten in part thanks to Pennsylvania's Rural EMS Education Funds.

Sessions are open to all, however seating in rooms is limited due to the design of the meeting rooms. In 2025, when maximum chair seating capacity is reached, the doors will be closed and we will not permit entrance. Because of the design of the rooms, we cannot add chairs once capacity is reached. You may have to sit near someone you do not know or sit in the front row of the classroom. Plan accordingly. Please fill in all available seats.

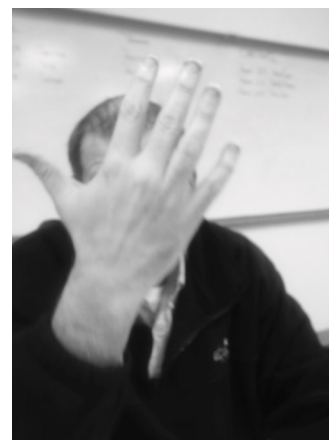
5:30pm—7:00pm Wednesday March 19

What We've Got Here is Failure to Communicate

Todd Shipley | Munhall Police

Richard Kaufman | EMS West

Police Officer (and paramedic) Todd Shipley, along with Richard Kaufman of EMS West, will present the 4th in a series on how public safety providers can better prepare themselves for situations not normally discussed in certification classes, such as de-escalation, self-defense and communications. Regardless of the circumstances, most of us are well versed in recognizing that moment when the scene has transitioned from conversation to argument. Discuss tactics that work, those that don't and maybe even get to practice with a surprise guest!



This session is free to everyone. You do not have to be registered for the conference.

Thursday March 20

8:00am • 9:00am

Why Is That Patient Wearing A Vest?: LVAD Review **Dr. Benjamin Williams**

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

LVAD's can be a intimidating piece of medical equipment. Why does that patient need one? How do I take vitals on this patient? What if I need to do CPR? In this discussion we will cover those questions and more. The goal is to make the provider feel comfortable managing a patient who is wearing an LVAD.

The Things Kids Put in their Mouths **Dr. Ji Young Lee**

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

We all know how children like to put anything and everything in their mouth. What happens when that "thing" is a medication or illicit drug? This discussion reviews current drug ingestion trends in pediatrics. We also talk about the used of Narcan in children and the EKG findings that you may see with certain drugs.

CLEAR!!! Bzzzzzt! Stop That!!!

Gene Giraulo
Steve McKinnis

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Uncommon, frequently missed and misunderstood EKG findings cause anxiety in the best of providers. Lets discuss some rarities, such as, Narrow Complex Tachycardias (is electricity the answer?) Wolfe Parkinsons White Syndrome, Bundle Brach Blocks and how to identify acute happenings- (AMI) and more.

Basic and Advanced Interventions In Acute Trauma **Dr. Adam Frisch**

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

This course will review high yield, low frequency procedures used in trauma. Specific attention will be given to indications, contraindications, techniques, and tricks for each procedure. Review of pathophysiology related to trauma will also be performed.

Let's Add Up the Numbers: mRACE Assessment **Dr. Nirav Bhatt**

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Most of us are proficient on the Cincinnati Stroke Scale, but what about mRACE? Do the numbers have any significance? In this lecture, we will review the mRACE score and show videos of the assessment. Will also discuss what those findings mean.

9:15am • 10:15am

Burnout in the Field: Strategies for EMS Resilience and Recovery

Dr. Anthony Battista

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Burnout is a state of emotional, mental, and often physical exhaustion brought on by prolonged or repeated stress. The coping strategies of many tend to be unhealthy and do not help to correct the underlying reason for it. Burnout is an established and growing problem facing our

EMS providers. We are finding that it is becoming a major reason for providers exiting the community. EMS providers all ready have multiple other difficulties not experienced by other healthcare workers and only recently has this begun to be recognized and programs are finally being implemented across all levels of care to address it. We will review the stages of burn out and help people to recognize at what stage you are currently experiencing burnout. We will delve into the management strategies to recover from the acute phase of burnout and how to prevent it in the future. We will also discuss how everyone has the ability to help be a part of the solution and strengthen our community.

Changing the Paradigm of Trauma Care **Dr. Joshua Brown**

1.0 Other Con-Ed

Research is key to advancing the care of our patients, and a key component is informed consent of potential participants to know the risks and potential benefits. Butin emergency conditions such as trauma, patients can't always consent, nor can we find a family member to consent especially in the field. So how can we get better and conduct research in these circumstances? Enter the Exception From Informed Consent (EFIC) for emergency research. We'll discuss what type of research qualifies for these rules, how the rules work, and what due diligence we need to do to make sure we're conducting the research ethically. We'll also look at some studies done in Western PA and across the US with prehospital interventions as case studies of how it was done, lessons learned, and the power of using EEIC to advance trauma care.

The Altered Child **Dr. Ursula Parlin**

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Pediatric calls can be some of the hardest and most stressful calls. In this lecture, we will discuss and review proper assessments of our pediatric patients, including how to determine the neuro status of infants. We will also review the types of medical conditions the pediatric patient's may have that cause the altered mental status.

Psychostimulant Toxicity **Dr. Anthony Pizon**

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

This presentation will summarize new and emerging drugs of abuse with a focus on psychostimulants. Western Pennsylvania has witnessed an increase in illicit psychostimulant use. In recent years, many more designer drugs have been emerging on the streets. The 'new normal' for drugs of abuse is an ever evolving collection of newly synthesized drugs. This talk with focus on the EMS need to understand the emerging and ever evolving psychostimulants populating our streets.

You HAVEN'T Seen This on TV! Let's Explore the Most Common Cause of Athletic Cardiac Arrest **Chase Canter**

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

With multiple resuscitations and defibrillations being witnessed live on national TV and social media platforms, it produced an inappropriate assumption of what the most common cause of cardiac arrest is in young adults, ages 16-24. Come with me to explore, evaluate, and resuscitate patients with Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy, the number one killer of student and professional athletes.

Thursday March 20

10:30am • 11:30am

Respect Your Elders! Care Considerations in Geriatrics

Dr. Chuck Feronti

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Using a case based approach, we will discuss pearls and pitfalls in the care of the geriatric patient. We will review how their vague, benign sounding complaints can often be a sign of serious and even deadly pathology. You will leave this lecture with a better understanding of the unique considerations in history taking, physical exam findings, and use of diagnostics when caring for this population!

Roles of EMS in Prehospital Stroke Care

Dr. Nirav Bhatt

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Prehospital stroke care has a tremendous potential to impact in-hospital stroke care and stroke outcomes. This presentation will review the current gaps and opportunities in development of a robust pre-hospital stroke care network with focus on quality and integration of technology in the prehospital stroke care.

From Clinician to Commander: An Introduction to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Incident Command

Adam Palmer

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

From Clinician to Commander: An Introduction to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Incident Command is aimed to teach EMS professionals proper techniques and implementation of incident command. Incident Command Systems (ICS) are most commonly practiced in fire departments. As a result of this, there are not many EMS-specific ICS classes offered and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)/paramedics are left to interpret the gray area of how to correlate the two together. The simple implementation of incident command at emergency scenes can dictate how the rest of the incident will go. As EMTs/paramedics, we are taught to be clinicians, not commanders. This presentation is aimed to close that gap, so EMS professionals can be aware of when and, more importantly, how to properly command an emergency incident.

Austere EMS

Dr. Keith Conover

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

The 2009 EMS act now allows Mass Gathering EMS, Tactical EMS, Wilderness EMS, and Disaster EMS, though regulations are still pending. Also in 2009, the Department of Homeland Security ran workshops on the last three - tactical, wilderness and disaster EMS workshops. DHS realized the similarities between Coast Guard wilderness EMS, Secret Service tactical EMS and FEMA disaster EMS. DHS set up the same training and protocols for all three coined the term "Austere EMS." We will consider the principles and practice of these three EMS subspecialties, with illustrative examples.

Is That Child Having a Seizure?

Dr. Angeliz Caro-Monroig

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Why is that child staring off into space? Is that a seizure? Shouldn't their arms and legs would be shaking? In this discussion we will review the different types of seizures and how they present. We will also discuss

the EMS studies on age based medication doses and weight based doses in pediatrics patients.

11:45am • 12:15pm

Intubation Bloopers: Video Review

Dr. Dylan Morris

0.5 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

It's hard to gain a lot of reps with intubation - there just aren't a lot of tubes to go around. In this session Clint (Morris) Eastwood will take you through the good, the bad and the ugly so you can do it right next time. Saddle up - you might just co-star in a video!

H's and T's Guided Post Cardiac Arrest Care

Alaina Martini

Cassandra Asberry

0.5 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Congratulations, your team has achieved return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC), now what? Delve into the H's and T's of cardiac arrest and tailor post-resuscitation care based upon patient presentation. Review evidence-based clinical pearls and explore post-resuscitation debriefing techniques.

Imodium - Why We Should Give a Crap

Kathleen Kern

0.5 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Imodium is an antidiarrheal which is frequently misused by IV drug abusers who are trying to get through withdrawal. My presentation will discuss syncope, arrhythmia, and possible cardiac arrest from such misuse of Imodium.

1:30pm • 2:30pm

The Night I Almost Jumped: EMS and the Stigma of Mental Health

Matthew Giacopelli

1.0 Other Con-Ed

Mental health - the elephant in every Emergency Services station and dispatch center. Mental health - the taboo subject no one talks about. Well, not anymore. We're going to have a talk about why Matt had a bout of depression that nearly ended his life. We are going to talk about some of our brothers and sisters who are no longer with us because they lost their battle with their demons. What is the extent of the problem? What's being done about it? We're going to talk about the stigma, and how to break it. We're going to learn how to cope, how to be resilient. Above all, we are going to learn it's ok to not be ok, and it's ok to talk about all of this. Because this time, the life we save may be our own.

Sports Medicine for SWAT: An Introduction to Care for the Tactical Athlete

Clay Ondrizek

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Paul Skenes, Sydney Crosby, and Russell Wilson might have more in common with your local tactical team members than you think. This course will serve as an introduction to the assessment, treatment, and

Thursday March 20

prevention of common musculoskeletal injuries to today's tactical athletes. While focused on tactical operators, the mindset of treating the tactical athlete can be applied to multiple realms of public safety personnel.

Non Pregnant Vaginal Bleeding in EMS Dr. Danielle Levine

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

When considering the chief complaint of vaginal bleeding, most medical providers first think of pregnancy related complications. However, abnormal uterine bleeding can occur in non-pregnant women of all ages and may contribute to morbidity and mortality via hypovolemic shock. EMTs and paramedics should be familiar with a variety of causes of vaginal bleeding, including menstruation-related complaints, endometriosis, fibroids, malignancy, and vaginal trauma. Competency with prehospital evaluation and treatment is key not only for effective patient care but also for making your patient feel comfortable in the midst of a sensitive emergency.

EMS Update Resuscitation Trivia Dr. Phil Nawrocki

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Join us for a live game of trivia! This 60 minute session will present and discuss a variety of emerging concepts in prehospital resuscitation including; airway management, ECPR, shock physiology, and cardiac arrest management. A focus will be placed on new evidence based practices and strategies that providers will be able to incorporate into their own practice. Attendees will have the opportunity to join this live game via an online trivia platform and answer questions presented in real time.

H+, CO2, and You: Acid Base Disorders for EMS Dr. Tyler McCardell

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

EMS providers routinely encounter patients with metabolic disorders in the field. Classifying these derangements can help us understand our patient's underlying pathophysiology and provide more appropriate treatment. This session will review basic human chemistry, explore the four major categories of acid-base disorders, and provide clinical examples for each.

2:45pm • 3:45pm

Updates in Trauma Care Dr. Al Philp

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Trauma care continues to evolve quickly, and this session uses cases to highlight advances in prehospital, ED, OR, and ICU care over the past few years in resuscitation, technology, and techniques.

Why Do We Need to Know Their Lab Values Ryan Senica

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

It's up there with the most boring dispatch you get in your day, Medic X respond to 123 Home Street for a female patient with abnormal labs. You show up, taxi the patient to the ED, and hit the EMS room, but could you have done more? Laboratory values are something that we skim over in EMS education, and rarely practice outside of class, yet it is

something that we frequently come across in the field. Let's take the time to recognize what these labs mean, what causes them to go awry, and what we can and should be doing while treating and transporting these patients in the field.

EMS Evolution: From Research Breakthroughs to Cutting-Edge Protocols and Education

Dr. Christian Martin-Gill

1.0 Other Con-Ed

The National Registry of EMTs, in partnership with the Prehospital Guidelines Consortium, is revamping the way it incorporates new scientific evidence into initial certification examinations and continued competency requirements. Dr. Martin-Gill, President of the Prehospital Guidelines Consortium (a national non-profit organization), will discuss how the science of EMS medicine has been evolving over the past 30 years and how NREMT and others are now incorporating scientific evidence into clinical protocols and education nationally and internationally.

Introduction to Traffic Incident Management System

Justin Eberly | VFIS

1.0 EMSVO Con-Ed

The 4-hour National Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Responder Training course teaches every responder community how to safely and quickly clear traffic incidents. This one hour introduction class introduces the concept of traffic incident responders including emergency medical service (EMS), transportation and public works, fire and rescue, law enforcement, towing and recovery, and other professionals who support traffic incident management.

Mystery Dx: Cold and Tired

Cassandra Asberry

Alaina Martini

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Vague symptoms, thick sweaters, and a sleepy grandma - what could it be? This case-study based presentation will delve into the signs, symptoms, and pathophysiology of an often-missed diagnosis and review goals for supportive care and definitive treatment.

Educational costs are underwritten in part thanks to Pennsylvania's Rural EMS Education Funds.

Thursday March 20

4:00pm • 5:15pm KEYSTONE PRESENTATION

Getting Bit by EMS

Dr. Benjamin Abo | Miami Dade Fire Rescue Venom 1

1.0 Other Con-Ed



"I don't need to know everything but I want to figure out what I don't know and know people who know it." This quote from Dr. Abo sums up his life perfectly. As an EMT in high school in New Jersey, he wanted to create his own path because sometimes you can choose a path, but you really are not sure where it's going to take you. But if you continue to carve out what you are passionate about, you can walk your path. Dr. Abo believes that sometimes we forget why we got into EMS and get stuck in ruts. As someone who has been fortunate and cursed with his experiences, Dr. Abo will discuss his lessons learned and try to teach others about letting the good times win and how getting bit by EMS at a young age determined his future.

Dr. Abo is an EMS and emergency physician and toxinologist currently practicing in Naples, Florida who graduated with multiple honors from Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine - California and Masters of Public Health Program. He currently has a number of roles including Medical Director for Gainesville Fire Rescue, Sanibel Fire Rescue, Captiva Fire Rescue, Pine Island Fire Department, Lake County Fire Rescue's Venom 2 Venomous Response Unit, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue's Venom One and USAR Florida Task Force 1. He has experienced EMS and emergency medicine around the globe with a number of philanthropic ventures, consulting, and serving as medical director and lead medical consultant/talent for a variety of television and movie productions including Shark Week, National Geographic, Shark Attack Files, and Kings of Pain. More recently, Dr. Abo co-founded the Asclepius Snakebite Foundation and serves as honorary medical director of the Surfers Medical Association.

5:15pm • 6:45pm

Welcome Reception in Seven Springs' Exhibit Hall with Exhibitors

This is your first opportunity to experience the Exhibits! Experience that latest equipment and supplies and visit with representatives from organizations, schools, companies and health care facilities and find out what's new.

We'll have light food and beverages set up throughout Exhibit Hall so you can do a first visit with our exhibitors and network with our speakers and providers from across Pennsylvania.

You will also have the opportunity to meet EMS West staff, out of the office and in a relaxed, fun environment.



Friday March 21

8:00am • 9:15am KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

Learning from the Past, Shaping a Brighter Future: Transformations in EMS

Donnie Woodyard, Jr | EMS Compact

1.0 Other Con-Ed

Take a deep dive into the fascinating history of Emergency Medical Services in the United States. From the groundbreaking 1966 White paper to the formation of the National Registry of EMTs in 1970, Donnie will explore the pivotal moments that shaped EMS as we know it. From the pioneers who laid the foundation, to the origins of the iconic EMS symbol and the lesser known stories behind it's evolution, to the stories, challenges, and innovations that got EMS to where it is today. And what about the future? Donnie will explore artificial intelligence (AI) and how it could re-shape EMS with predictive insights and lead to better patient outcomes. Join us as we explore that path that led us here; and the path of what is ahead for the profession.



DONNIE WOODYARD JR., MAML, NRP, WP-C, the author of EMS in the United States: Fragmented Past, Future of Opportunity has a career in Emergency Medical Services spanning three decades. His journey started in high school when he volunteered as an EMT in Pearisburg, Virginia. He is currently enrolled in the Executive Leaders Program at the Naval Postgraduate School, a certificate in AI in Healthcare at Harvard University, while concurrently working on his Doctorate degree in Public Administration. In 2023, he was appointed as the full-time Executive Director for the EMS Compact. He is recognized for establishing the modern EMS System in Sri Lanka and advising on EMS and trauma system designs in several South Asian countries. He has authored, edited, or consulted on EMS textbooks published in Sinhala, Tamil, Khmer, and Bengali languages. Donnie is a skilled Scuba Dive Master, with over 800 dives to his credit. He is also an airplane pilot and currently serves as a Squadron Commander with the United States Air Force Auxiliary – Civil Air Patrol.

Join us immediately after our Keynote Session on Friday, March 21 as we open one of the largest free admission EMS exhibitions in Pennsylvania.

Presenting over 16,000 square feet of EMS, & public safety equipment, products and services.

Exhibit Hall is open Friday, March 21, until 3:30 p.m.

There is no fee to enter Exhibit Hall and EMS, fire, rescue, dispatch, police, haz-mat, hospital and all public safety providers are encouraged to bring their families and shop for your needed supplies and equipment.

Students in the Keynote session on Friday March 21 receive priority admission into Exhibit Hall and will have exclusive time with exhibitors on Friday morning prior to everyone else allowed entry.

Friday March 21

10:00am • 11:00am

The Role of BLS in Mass Casualty Incidents

Justin Beal

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

In mass casualty incidents (MCIs), the number of patients often exceeds available medical resources, placing immense pressure on emergency responders. Basic Life Support (BLS) providers play a crucial role in such scenarios, where rapid decision-making, life-saving interventions, and efficient coordination are essential for maximizing patient survival. This presentation will explore the specific responsibilities of BLS providers in MCIs, focusing on their role in triage, patient care, and resource management. Key topics include scene safety, performing rapid triage using systems like START, and implementing essential BLS interventions such as airway management, hemorrhage control, and CPR. Attendees will also learn about working within the Incident Command System (ICS) to ensure a coordinated response, managing patient transport decisions, and prioritizing care based on available resources. Ethical considerations, such as balancing patient autonomy with resource allocation and the challenges of making life-and-death decisions, will also be discussed.

The Art of the Medical Command Consult

Dr. Chadd Nesbit

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

We use many types of communication in our day-to-day lives, verbal, non-verbal, written, and visual. However, when we pick up the radio or cell phone to call medical command to discuss a patient we are limited solely to verbal communication and the physician on the other end of the call does not have the advantage of seeing the patient which puts them at a significant disadvantage. This often presents challenges and may lead to unmet expectations on both sides of the conversation. It may be difficult to paint the clinical picture and effectively communicate the situation to obtain orders to allow for continued patient care. In this presentation we will discuss some of the challenges that may occur on both ends of the phone and some techniques that may be helpful in facilitating these crucial patient care conversations.

Breathing Easy: A Thoughtful Approach to the Respiratory Patient

Dr. Aleksander Keller

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Respiratory complaints are a common call for EMS, and some of the sickest calls involve these patients. Often, we throw every therapy we have at them, but is this really the best for our patients? In this interactive lecture, we'll go over a thoughtful approach to these patients, honing a diagnosis, and offering tailored approaches to therapy to improve outcomes. This session is appropriate for all EMS levels.

There Won't Be Blood: How to Improve Tourniquet Use

Dr. Peter Allen

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Since the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the use of tourniquets stateside have become more and more popular. In fact, the Stop The Bleed Campaign has become increasingly popular. What is the best time and place to use tourniquets? Are there viable alternatives? What can we do better and what can we expect in the future when it comes to control of massive exsanguinating hemorrhage? Dr. Allen will explore the cur-

rent use and future of tourniquets. This session is appropriate for all EMS levels.

Beyond Routine: EMS Emergencies and Rare Disease

Brian Kosczuk

Brian Dawson

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

EMS providers spend countless hours training to ensure the ability to provide compassionate and professional care to patients that depend on us in our communities. Many times we experience patient encounters that are routine, and quality care is provided in a predictable manner. At some point, providers experience a patient with a history, medication list and diagnosis that we did not know existed. The program will help you understand what rare diseases are, how to process assessment finding and improve communication to treat patients with rare diseases. This topic will be presented by two EMS providers that are educators living with rare autoimmune diseases, who are passionate about increasing awareness and advocacy to EMS providers caring for these patients.

11:15am • 12:15pm

Mental and Physical Health Work Side by Side in EMS

Rob Druga

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Has anyone ever had a call that they really had a hard time dealing with? Add to that a few extra shifts that did not play out like they were supposed to, as well as adding a call or two that affected you the same way. How many people were told, this is what EMS is, either you can deal with it, or you can get out of it? Maybe this was just ingrained into our heads long ago, but it is still seen that way today, even though there are ways to help cope with it. This presentation will discuss stress, burnout, PTSD, and how there are some common good and bad ways to help overcome the boundaries that they establish. There will also be examples of how this affected me both physically and mentally as well as why I believe it is a subject that should not go unnoticed.

Even Death Has a Heart: End of Life Care and EMS

Heather Valente

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Confused about advanced directives? Unclear on when they can be followed? Feeling unsure about end of life? You're not alone! Studies show that EMS providers report suboptimal training on these topics, making these stressful situations more difficult to navigate. This presentation will dive into the confusing terminology of advanced directives, define the differences between palliative care and hospice care as it relates to EMS care, identify treatments for end-of-life symptom management, and discuss the natural progression of signs and symptoms as one gets closer to death. Additionally, we will review the current state protocols related to out of hospital no not resuscitate and death on arrival, discuss important religious considerations, and identify tips and tricks for death notifications and discuss self-care.

EMS Prehospital Deliveries

Dr. Danielle Levine

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

There are approximately 40,000 out-of-hospital births in the United

Friday March 21

States every year, which account for about 1% of total deliveries. Approximately one quarter of these out-of-hospital births are unplanned or unattended. Because deliveries occur so infrequently in the prehospital setting, initial effort should be directed toward getting the mother quickly to a hospital with obstetric and gynecological care. In cases where there is not enough time to transport the mother to the appropriate facility, timely EMS intervention is crucial. Increased perinatal mortality and morbidity for both neonate and mother have been associated with unplanned prehospital deliveries. EMS providers can assuage these risks with frequent training in delivery technique and mitigation of common delivery complications.

Wilderness Medicine - Caring for the Trauma Patient:

Orthopedic Splinting and Evacuation

Dr. Ryan McLoughlin

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Come learn about strategies and techniques for improvising splints in a wilderness setting with the materials you have. A comprehensive review of splinting technique translated from the hospital practice to remote practice. Also learn about what to expect when organizing and executing an evacuation over unimproved terrain, and how to function on a litter team.

Minutes Matter: Focus on QRS and Initial Interventions

Dr. Tyler McCardell

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Hundreds of departments statewide operate a Quick Response Service (QRS) program to assist with medical emergencies and an even greater number of EMS providers may find themselves on scene alone at some point in their career. This session will highlight evidence-based interventions and assessments that can be performed by a QRS or First Responder provider within the first few minutes of patient contact, with a primary focus on the BLS level but also recognizing the growing number of Intermediate ALS and ALS enabled QRS teams.

1:00pm • 1:30pm

Death Notification (Don't Fear the Reaper)

Mo Pittser

0.5 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

This session aims to improve the confidence, competency, and communication skills of EMS personnel in death notification. This presentation reviews strategies and techniques for providing death notifications following field termination. Additionally, this session focuses on family presence during resuscitation and special considerations such as pediatric patients. Additionally, general topics surrounding grief will be reviewed (e.g., grief phases, recognition of grief, etc.), legal issues, and cultural and religious beliefs essential in our diverse and multicultural society.

Hocus POCUS and Magic Crystals - Ultrasound in EMS

Dr. Ryan McLoughlin

0.5 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Ultrasound is a mainstay of Emergency Medicine in the Emergency Department. Are there applications in the field? Some EMS agencies have begun to incorporate POCUS or Point Of Care Ultrasound. The uses for this technology are varied and show potential clinical and diagnostic

value pre-hospital, though further investigation is needed. Come learn about the science and applications of POCUS in EMS.

End Tidal CO₂: The 7th Prehospital Vital Sign?

Dr. Rebecca Greenstein

0.5 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

This presentation will review the basics of end tidal CO₂, including what it means and what it is measuring. It will review state protocols that require end tidal CO₂ monitoring as well as situations where end tidal CO₂ may be useful. It will also discuss the limitations and how ETCO₂ and PaCO₂ are not always equal.

Quick Chat with the Regional Medical Director

Dr. Richard Wadas

0.5 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Meet EMS West's Regional Medical Director and get a chance to discover some of the cutting-edge clinical activities occurring in the region. Dr. Wadas will quickly review the role of the regional medical director what he expects from you—the EMS provider.

1:45pm • 2:45pm

STEMI or Not: Prehospital Cath Lab Activation

Dr. Christian Martin-Gill

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

This session will review lessons learned from over a decade of prehospital activations at 7 STEMI Receiving Centers in Southwestern PA. We will review key challenges and opportunities for the care of patients with suspected acute coronary syndrome, including an emphasis on identifying ST-elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI). Common mimics leading to cancelled activations will also be reviewed.

Don't Drop the Beat: Pediatric Cardiac Arrest

Dr. Sylvia Owuso-Ansah

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Pediatric cardiac arrest, although rare, the outcomes are typically poor. Less than 10% of pediatric patients survive cardiac arrest, and only a third of those who survive will have a good neurological outcome. Despite major improvements in adult cardiac arrest survivability, pediatric rates of survival remain relatively fixed. This lecture will help you identify the key causes of pediatric cardiac arrest and how to be able to best manage pediatric cardiac arrest in the field.

What You Knew Yesterday Isn't Enough for Tomorrow's Emergency: Lifelong Learning in EMS

Dr. William Jenkins

Jonathon Jenkins

1.0 Other Con-Ed

A father and son's journey outlining WHAT emergency care and EMS can teach you about life and HOW to best fine tune your medical knowledge in today's fast paced, high-tech EMS world.

Friday March 21

2:30pm • 3:30pm

Understanding the EMS Compact: Changing the Landscape of Interstate Licensure

Donnie Woodyard, Jr

1.0 Other Con-Ed

"Understanding the EMS Compact: Changing the Landscape of Interstate Licensure" offers an in-depth exploration of the EMS Compact, a transformative initiative that enables nearly 400,000 EMS clinicians to practice across 24 member states with a single Home State license. This session will provide attendees with a clear understanding of how the EMS Compact is revolutionizing interstate licensure, addressing workforce recruitment and retention challenges, and ensuring high standards of care. By examining the Compact's history, structure, and purpose, participants will gain valuable insights into its role as both state law and a multi-state agreement. The presentation will highlight the Compact's significant impact on state licensure requirements, local credentialing processes, and the broader regulatory landscape. Attendees will leave with a comprehensive understanding of the practical and legal aspects of the EMS Compact, including its benefits for clinicians, employers, regulators, and the public. This session is essential for agency leaders, educators, and EMS professionals seeking to stay ahead in a rapidly evolving field.

Dying to Thriving

Talo Capuzzi

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

The course will be about suffering and surviving an out of hospital cardiac arrest. The course will touch on the moments leading up to my cardiac event, touch on the care that I received from EMS to my discharge from AGH 10 days later, and the follow up care that I am still receiving. I will touch on the struggles that I have had since that time, the survivors' guilt, the anxiety and mostly the fear of the unknown. I will talk about the resources we have at our disposal and coping mechanisms that I have found that are working for me. I will also talk about the lifestyle changes that I have made in the wake of this event.

3:00pm • 4:00pm

Something for the Pain

Dr. Catherine Toro

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

One of the most common reasons people call 911 is for pain, and there's a lot we can do to help. This lecture will talk about the different types of pain control at our disposal (many of which DON'T need an IV), reasons why we historically undertreat pain prehospitally, and some pros and cons of the medications we carry.

2025 EMS Protocol Development/Pennsylvania Clinical Outcomes

Dr. R. Daniel Bledsoe

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

A review of the 2025 EMS Statewide protocol development process, including key findings and a reveal of the new look for the protocols. Dr. Bledsoe, Commonwealth EMS Medical Director, will also review research conducted through the Commonwealth and what may come for providers.

Prehospital Blood Administration

Dr. Vincent Mosesso

Larry Pollock

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

In this lecture we will discuss a brief background and history of the EMS blood programs. It will also cover the protocols and the requirements needed to carry blood. The discussions also explains the policy, procedures and operational aspect of carrying and deploying the blood. Will also provide case examples of EMS prehospital blood administration.

Cultivating Future First Responders: Youth in EMS

Elizabeth Mathew

Rohit Lobo

1.0 Other Con-Ed

The Uwchlan Ambulance Corps Juniors Program, the largest youth EMS organization in the northeastern United States, is dedicated to empowering young people (ages 14-18) to become skilled and compassionate emergency medical professionals. Through rigorous training programs, we certify ambulance aides and junior EMTs, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to provide vital pre-hospital care. Our program goes beyond initial certifications--each month, we offer continual education and hands-on activities to ensure our juniors stay updated on the latest knowledge and developments in the field. Additionally, we host and participate in several community events throughout the year, providing opportunities to integrate EMS into the community. We emphasize the importance of building strong relationships between youth and experienced EMS personnel, fostering mutual learning and respect. We cover the importance of community events as they help familiarize the public with emergency medicine, educate them about EMS, and highlight its vital role in public safety. We discuss how by investing in these young individuals, we are not only shaping their futures but also strengthening our communities and enhancing emergency medical services throughout the country. We discuss how to work with youth and foster the youth and EMS personnel relationship. We discuss through statistics how youth in EMS impacts our public safety system as a whole.

Common Sense Ain't So Common: Defensive Driving for EMS

Justin Eberly | VFIS

1.0 EMSVO Con-Ed

EMS vehicles travel on roadways filled with aggressive, distracted or other types of terrible civilian drivers. Let's face it, common sense ain't that common. EMS vehicle operators must remain vigilant of potentially hazardous situations on the road around them. This seminar will outline defensive driving techniques that can be immediately applied to improve the safety of EMS vehicle operations.

4:15pm • 5:15pm

Pediatric Trauma: Why Kids Aren't Just Little Adults

Dr. Rebecca Greenstein

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

This session will discuss the differences in mechanism of injury, injury patterns and management in pediatric trauma. It will review pediatric anatomy and how/when pediatric trauma injuries differ from adults. It will review more common injury patterns, pediatric shock, and how management of pediatric trauma differs from adults, both prehospital

Friday March 21

and on the initial trauma assessment.

The 5 D's of Dodgeball.... I mean Posterior Strokes

Bradley Dean

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Posterior circulation strokes account for 20% (1 out of 5) of ischemic strokes, but may present differently to their anterior circulation counterparts. Patients may not exhibit unilateral facial weakness, speech disturbances and unilateral limb weakness, but instead present with more vague symptoms of sudden headache, dizziness, loss of balance and visual problems. Is it acceptable to miss 1 out of 5 strokes? This session will quickly take EMS providers through the 5 D's of posterior strokes for quick recognition regardless of the stroke exam utilized within their community.

ECMO on the Frontlines: Revolutionizing Cardiac Arrest Survival in the Prehospital Setting

Dr. Matthew Poremba

Dr. Tyler VanDyck

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) has emerged as a life-saving intervention for patients experiencing refractory cardiac arrest, offering a new dimension in prehospital resuscitation. This lecture will explore the growing role of prehospital ECMO, examining how this advanced technology can significantly improve survival rates in cases of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA). We will review the physiological rationale for early ECMO implementation, focusing on its ability to provide circulatory and respiratory support during critical moments when conventional resuscitation fails. Attendees will gain insight into the operational challenges of deploying ECMO in the field, from logistical considerations and patient selection criteria to the training required for prehospital teams. Real-world case studies and the latest clinical data will be presented, highlighting the transformative impact of ECMO in prehospital settings and how it could shape the future of cardiac arrest care. Join us to explore the cutting edge of emergency medicine and the potential to save lives through early and strategic use of ECMO.

Pennsylvania Department of Health Bureau of EMS Update

Anthony Martin

1.0 Other Con-Ed

Anthony Martin, Director of the PA Department of Health Bureau of EMS will provide information on the state of EMS, current initiatives in the Bureau of EMS and projects that will be coming soon.

Why Can't I Get a Damn Raise?

Eric Schmidt

1.0 Other Con-Ed

Have you ever had a partner insinuate that your agency has a ton of money but refuses to spend it or heard similar comments floating around the office? Prepare to be enlightened in this upcoming presentation as we delve into the world of EMS finance. While the financial aspects of EMS may not be the most exciting topic for you as a clinician, it is crucial for everyone in the system to grasp these concepts in order to address and rectify the issues at hand. By increasing awareness among the public and local and state officials, we can work towards creating positive change. Don't let ignorance be your downfall - educate yourself on the business side of EMS through this crash course. Become

a strong advocate for EMS and take the first step towards earning the raise you truly deserve!

5:30pm • 6:30pm

Wrong Side of the Fang: Up To Date Care for the Envenomed

Dr. Benjamin Abo

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Sure your protocols are up to date? Think you should keep the limb above the heart? Know what common treatments are myths needing to be broken? We will jump right into the most up to date Dos & Do Nots for snakebite envenomation from the physician for Venom 1 himself, who's first snakebite he saw treated was a cobra bite in Pittsburgh. Do you know what to do?

Livin' "Davita" Loca

Jonathon Jenkins

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Everyday, EMS clinicians encounter dialysis patients. Arguably, dialysis patients may be some of the sickest we encounter, based upon their underlying physiology, chronic disease state, and fragile vasculature. Join me as we explore the underlying causes for dialysis, how the dialysis process works, and the most common medical emergencies that occur in the dialysis patient!

7:00pm

Join us for a family movie
with kid-approved pizza,
snacks and beverages!



ADDITIONAL SOCIAL EVENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE

Saturday March 22

8:30am • 10:00am

In The Line of Fire: Lessons from the Trump Rally in Butler, PA— EMA & EMS Preparation, Response, and Initial/Unforeseen Challenges

**Richard Lippert
Robert McLafferty
Dr. Sharon Klapec
Megan Lenz
Nico Soler**

1.5 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed Applied thru PA DOH

This presentation offers a comprehensive overview of the emergency management and EMS response to the Trump Rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, on July 13, 2024. Attendees will gain an inside look at the incident's timeline, from initial risk assessment and resource allocation to the emergency response and post-event support. We'll delve into the critical roles played by various agencies, including local EMS, fire departments, Butler Memorial Hospital, State Assets, and the Healthcare Coalition in managing over 250 patient contacts. Key topics include the challenges faced during the rally, such as resource shortages, the rapid deployment of assets due to heat-related incidents, and the importance of pre-established relationships among responders. The presentation will also highlight the aftermath, including CISM for responders. Through first-hand accounts and interviews, we'll identify lessons learned to improve future emergency responses and community preparedness. This session will underscore the resilience and character of those on the front lines, reflecting on Zig Ziglar's quote: "Circumstances don't create character. They reveal character."

10:15am • 11:15am

**EMS Response to Civil Unrest
Wesley Semple**

1.0 Other Con-Ed

Civil unrest situations can provide a unique dynamic for crews who are responding to them. While many of these scenarios can be peaceful, others can be particularly violent. Responders should be able to identify these incidents with good situational awareness and assessment. Topics to be covered this presentation include an overview of varying civil unrest situations, groups involved in these scenarios, devices used to distract and disrupt, considerations for response, training and more.

This Presentation is Gonna Go Viral! How to Spot, Treat, and Beat Infectious Diseases

Kayla Resh

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

When you're on the front lines, it's not just the adrenaline rush that can be contagious--infectious diseases like TB, HIV, West Nile, and even Ebola can spread quickly if not recognized and handled properly. This presentation will inoculate you with the essentials for spotting these diseases, taking the right precautions, and staying safe. From PPE to patient care tips, we'll cover what you need to know to keep yourself, your team, and your patients healthy. After all, when it comes to infectious diseases, it's better to catch the signs early!

Navigating Non-Invasive Ventilation: Bipap, Cpap, Avaps,

and Beyond

Dr. Vincent LaMantia

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Noninvasive ventilation (NIV) has emerged as a transformative approach in the management of acute and chronic respiratory failure. By delivering positive pressure to the airways without the need for endotracheal intubation, NIV offers several advantages including reduced risk of complications, improved patient comfort, and shortened hospital stays. This presentation reviews the principles, indications, and clinical applications of NIV, with a focus on its impact on patient outcomes in various capacities. Key modalities, including continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP), bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP), and now more recently, average volume-assured pressure support (AVAPs), are explored in terms of their mechanisms, benefits, and limitations. This presentation also highlights recent advancements and emerging technologies in NIV, emphasizing the importance of individualized patient assessment and management strategies. It will also briefly discuss NIV failure with transition to mechanical ventilation as well as NIV as a pre-oxygenation strategy.

When the Paramedic Becomes the Patient's Family: A Journey Through Cardiac Arrest Care and Survival

Larry Pollock

Cheryl Rickens

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

As professional responders we are trained to respond to many different types of medical emergencies. We know the importance of high-quality CPR and early defibrillation. But what about the scenario where a family member suffers a medical emergency, the professional responders are friends, you frequently interact professionally with the hospital team now caring for your family member, your coworkers are now assisting in the care continuum. How does that look? How does that feel? How do you respond? With sharing the Pollock family story, we hope to address some of these issues from an insider's viewpoint.

Your Patient Is Crashing, What Do You Do?

Protocol Review

Dr. Owen Traynor

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Most EMS patients can be expertly cared for in the ambulance. There are a small number of ill patients whose care cannot wait until they are extricated to the ambulance. Protocol 3000 specifically addresses these patients. The protocol was developed because there were several cases of cardiac arrests that occurred while the patient was in the care of the EMS clinicians. Little, if any care was performed before transferring the patient to the ambulance.

11:30am • 12:30pm

Evolution of Prehospital Care

Dr. Sharon Klapec

1.0 Other Con-Ed

From Dominique Larrey's "flying ambulances" of the eighteenth century to today's cutting-edge resuscitation techniques, prehospital care of the sick and wounded has evolved tremendously. This session will tell the story of the evolution of EMS, including key events and pioneers who have shaped the way we provide prehospital care today, at times despite great odds.

Saturday March 22

Aortic Dissection: The Great Masquerader

Dr. Brian Risavi

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Would you recognize a patient with an aortic dissection? How would you assess a patient suspected of having an aortic dissection? Are these patients straightforward? Using a case-based format, we will explore the life-threatening pathology of aortic dissection and better prepare you to recognize this deadly disease.

Vitals - Are They Really Vital?

Dr. Matthew Lovell

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

In this session we will explore the role that vital signs play in diagnostic workups, what they can tell us about patient conditions, and why they are important in guiding patient care. We will look at a few cases where borderline vitals hint at serious underlying pathology.

Pills and Spills: Prehospital Falls in the Age of Polypharmacy

Tom Wen Han Su

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths among individuals over 65, with the risk significantly heightened by certain medications and drug interactions from multiple concurrent prescriptions. This issue is further complicated by current prescribing practices. This presentation will emphasize the importance of identifying medications that increase fall risk during patient assessments. It will examine the most commonly prescribed drug classes, their potential adverse effects--particularly those linked to falls--and evidence-based strategies for managing these risks, such as using medication review tools. Additionally, this presentation will highlight the crucial role that clear, effective communication during the transfer of care plays in ensuring continuity of treatment and improving patient outcomes. Despite the importance of this issue, it remains underrepresented in EMS education, making it a vital area for enhanced training and focus.

I've Got the Sugars: Essentials On Diabetic Emergencies

Dr. Rickquel Tripp

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Exploring the details about hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia and evidence-based treatments. Also, is it safe to not transport?

1:30pm • 2:30pm

A Renal-ly Bad Day: MacGyver Medicine for Bleeding Fistulas and Other Difficult Prehospital Scenarios

Christina Hogg

Dr. Rebecca Greenstein

Dr. Sharon Klapec

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Inspired by a case report done by several familiar AHN Physicians, as well as a growing divide in knowhow between providers, a multi-county case study review and provider knowledge inventory was conducted and this presentation idea was born. Using their best tips and niftiest "MacGyver medicine" tricks, a group of AHN prehospital providers and EMS physicians will run through their favorite methods for providing optimal treatment to some of the most difficult or unusual prehospital

emergencies you might encounter, accessible to all experience levels and applicable to a variety of job types.

Traumatic Cardiac Arrest: What Do We Do?

UPMC Prehospital Team

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Traumatic cardiac arrests have historically had poor survival rates. We will discuss established guidelines for patient survivability and updates for best practices in the field. When it comes to choosing when and how to act, how can we do better?

Legal and Ethical Considerations in BLS: What You Need to Know

Justin Beal

1.0 Other Con-Ed

Basic Life Support (BLS) providers are often faced with critical decisions that carry significant legal and ethical implications. This presentation will provide a comprehensive overview of the legal responsibilities BLS providers must be aware of, including scope of practice, standards of care, and the duty to act. It will also explore key laws that protect providers, such as Good Samaritan laws, which offer legal immunity to those rendering aid in emergencies, while outlining their limitations. Additionally, this session will cover the concept of patient consent, including informed and implied consent, and the criteria for determining a patient's capacity to refuse care. Special emphasis will be placed on handling refusal of care situations, discussing the importance of proper documentation and communication when a patient declines treatment. The ethical principles of autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, and justice will be discussed, offering guidance on how to navigate difficult scenarios where patient rights may conflict with the provider's duty to save lives. Through real-life case studies, participants will gain practical insights into balancing legal compliance with ethical considerations, ensuring that they deliver care that protects both the patient and the provider. By the end, attendees will be equipped to make sound, informed decisions in challenging situations.

Optimizing Care for the Neurodiverse

Tiffany Vargo

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Do you know what neurodiversity is and how it impacts clinical care? Approximately 15 to 20 percent of the global population is considered neurodiverse. These individuals have a range variation of how they process information, perceive the world around them, and communicate with others. EMS providers need to be aware of these nuances to keep their neurodiverse patients as comfortable as possible in a potentially chaotic or unfamiliar interaction. Supporting the special needs of these individuals can help optimize care in the neurodiverse patient. During this lecture we will define neurodiversity, classify the range of special needs for neurodiverse patients, and discover techniques to optimize assessment and care of these patients.

Knees Weak, Arms Heavy, Vomit on his Sweater Already

Sarin-GHETTI

Dr. Jonathan McMahon

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

A person presents to the treatment room at the concert you're working at saying they have shortness of breath, "coughing up a lot of stuff," nausea, and they think they may have pooped a little. This all started

Saturday March 22

10 minutes ago. You think, "Huh, this really doesn't sound like the normal drunk patients we deal with..." You start treatment and transport to the hospital for them when another five people come in with similar problems. What is happening here and what will you do? Come learn about some nasty toxins that can really put a damper on anyone's good time, or farm time. We'll cover when to think about these toxins, how they work, and how you can save lives.

4:00pm • 5:00pm

Roll of BLS Providers During Intubation

Matthew Horton

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

The goal of this lecture is that the student will leave being able to identify and manage a compromised airway using basic life support modalities, and how to assist the advanced life support provider.

Weed the People

Bradley Dean

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

There has been a significant rise in the number of states that allow for legal cannabis use. As of 2024, roughly 38 states allow for medical can-

nabis use, while 18 states allow for recreational cannabis use. With the modern advancements in medicine there have been identified safe and therapeutic indications for cannabis. With the continual growing use of cannabis, EMS providers will likely encounter more cannabis-related incidents than ever before. It is imperative that EMS providers understand the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics and medicolegal considerations related to cannabis use. This presentation will review these important aspects as well as review a couple of case presentations related to cannabis related illnesses.

The Furry Blue Line: EMSs Role in the Care of Injured K9 Officers

Dr. Quincy Chopra

1.0 Clinical Patient Care Con-Ed

Bad things happen to good dogs. K9 officers routinely put themselves in harm's way while enforcing the law, and sometimes become casualties in the line of duty. In this talk, we will discuss how EMS can take the skills we already know and translate it to provide the same high quality prehospital care to police dogs. We will learn how to manage injuries and illness affecting K9s including airway management, IV access, bleeding control, and resuscitation using equipment and medications we already have in our vehicles.

When arriving at the resort, please check in at the EMS Update Welcome Center, located near the resort's Grand Ball Room. You can obtain your name badge, registration packet and information on the exhibitors and class locations. You can also get needed receipts at this time. We are open:

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

3:00PM—5:30PM

Thursday, March 20, 2025

7:00AM—4:00PM

Friday, March 21, 2025

7:00AM—4:00PM

Saturday, March 22, 2025

8:00AM—11:00AM

NOTICE: Pictures and video will be taken during the conference. By registering for the conference, attending classes, events and activities and/or visiting the resort convention center and/or the exhibitors, you acknowledge that there is a possibility your picture, audio or video image may be taken and that the event organizers can use the photo, audio or video for marketing purposes and that you will not be entitled to any compensation for the photo, audio or video.

EMS Update 2025 Conference Course Selection Committee

Chairperson

Larry Pantuso

Washington Health System

Justin Beal	STAT MedEvac	Dawn Buck	Amserv LTD Dusan Ambulance
Robbin Cessna	EMS West	Alex Cutsumbis	Center for Emergency Medicine
Diane Fitzhenry	Penn Hills EMS	Jonathon Jenkins	LITES Network
Richard Kaufman	EMS West	Jonathan Madaras	SouthEast Regional EMS
Tom McElree	EMS West	Greg Porter	Ross West View EMS
Tiffany Rohde-Wyant	Allegheny Health Network	Brian Shaw	EMS West
Dr. Richard Wadas	EMS West		

Interested in presenting at EMS Update 2026?

Visit www.emsupdate.com after July 1, 2025 for the packet of information to apply to speak in 2026. Applications accepted until COB on September 11, 2025.

EMS Update 2025 is held at The Vail Corporation's Seven Springs Mountain Resort, 777 Waterwheel Drive, Seven Springs, PA 15622-4007. The resort is easily accessible from either exit 91 or 110 of the Pennsylvania Turnpike.



Call 855-947-0438 You MUST mention the group code to receive these discounted rates.

NIGHTLY ROOM RATES (subject to taxes)

\$169 per night, single hotel occupancy @ hotel

\$192 per night, double occupancy @ hotel

855-947-0438

THE GROUP CODE IS B7SEMS25

The deadline for the hotel to honor these rates is February 16, 2025. After that date, the resort is under no obligation to offer these discounted room rates.

Class schedules and speakers are subject to change. Information will be posted if a session is cancelled. If a session is changed, we will make a reasonable attempt to secure suitable replacement(s) of a similar subject/speaker. We do not permit auditing of classes.

Speaker biographies, session titles and session descriptions are provided by speakers and are subject to change and are also available at www.emsupdate.com

Educational costs are underwritten in part thanks to Pennsylvania's Rural EMS Education Funds.

If you have registered for the conference and have special needs, such as dietary concerns or accessibility concerns, please let us know before March 1, 2025 by sending written notification to joe@emsupdate.com

Tuition for EMS Update 2025 includes: continuing education credit, refreshment breaks, and our All You Can Eat lunch buffet for each day you attend classes/sessions.

Tuition does not include hotel accommodations and/or activity fees at Seven Springs. Please note that lost conference IDs WILL NOT be replaced. Sponsors may have special events that require a separate ticket (available from them) and/or admission fee.

Spouses, guests and children do not have to register/pay unless they plan to attend classes or eat at our lunch buffets. No children in classes, please.

Additional tickets for the All-You-Can-Eat lunch buffets are available and can be purchased on-site for \$25/person/day (this is what we pay the resort for each lunch).

Payment after March 14 must be made by credit card, cashier's check, money order, or cash.

Additional information on hotel reservations, exhibitors, speakers and other important EMS Update 2025 details can be found at www.emsupdate.com

If registering on-line, clicking the registration link will take you to a secure website to complete your transaction.

Early registration is recommended.

Register online at: www.emsupdate.com

THREE DAY REGISTRATION IS \$125 IF YOU REGISTER/PAY BY FEBRUARY 14

REGISTRATION INCREASES BEGINNING FEBRUARY 14

(check www.emsupdate.com for pricing)

If unable to register online, please use the registration form at the end of this document. Photocopies of additional forms are acceptable. If there are questions on the registration process, please email us at joe@emsupdate.com or call 412/494-5572.

Please do not mail any registrations after March 14, 2025—register online or bring your conference registration with you and register on-site at the conference (there is no additional fee). We are unable to accept personal checks after March 14, 2025.

The entire brochure and registration form is located @ www.emsupdate.com

Conference attendees assume all risk incidental to participation in all activities, loss or damage to property, and release WREMS/EMS West, General Expositions, and Seven Springs Mountain Resort against any claims.

Up-to-date information on exhibitors attending can be found at <http://www.emsupdate.com>

REFUND POLICY

If you must cancel, your request for a refund must be made **in writing to joe@emsupdate.com**. Substitute attendees are encouraged and accepted at any time. Phone call cancellations cannot be accepted.

If a cancellation is received:

Prior to 9am March 16, 2025, refund approved

After 9am March 16, 2025, no refund

Please allow 3 business days to process your refund. Your bank can take up to 14 business days to post the refund.

Seven Springs is now a CASHLESS facility so please be prepared for your visit.



EMS UPDATE 2025

REGISTRATION FORM

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

PA EMS Certification Number _____

If not PA EMS certified, list other license/certification information _____

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Security code from back of card _____

Credit card signature _____

Zip Code _____ (card mailing address)

4 WAYS TO REGISTER:

1. Online www.emsupdate.com
2. Mail this form and payment
EMS Update 2025
Western Regional EMS
1002 Church Hill Road
Pittsburgh PA 15205
3. Fax 412-787-2340
4. Email joe@emsupdate.com

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO WREMS

REGISTRATION FEE IS \$125 FOR THE ENTIRE CONFERENCE IF PAID IN FULL BY FEBRUARY 14, 2025.

\$125 BY 02/14/25

This includes admission to the classes, Exhibit Hall, refreshment breaks and lunch for each day you attend. These are all non-transferable.

REGISTRATION FEE IS \$150 FOR THE ENTIRE CONFERENCE IF PAID IN FULL BEGINNING FEBRUARY 15, 2025 AND THROUGH MARCH 22, 2025.

\$150 AFTER 02/14/25

This includes admission to the classes, Exhibit Hall, refreshment breaks and lunch for each day you attend. These are all non-transferable.