



RESPONSE EMS - ALASKA



Volume 25, Number 1

Fall 2003



28th Annual EMS Symposium



This issue of RESPONSE: EMS ALASKA includes the schedule for the 2003 State EMS Symposium. This year's event will be held at the Egan Center, in Anchorage, on November 12, 13, 14, and 15. The hosting hotel is the Hilton Anchorage Hotel where the special conference rate is \$81 per night (single or double). The toll free reservation line for the Hilton Anchorage Hotel is (800) 245-2527 (in-state), (800) 445-8667 (world-wide). The direct number is (907) 265-7152. In addition, reservations can be made online at <http://www.anchorage.hilton.com>. Be sure to use the code "EMS."

As you can see from the schedule, this year's symposium should be both entertaining and educational. It is our 28th Annual EMS Symposium! We have many new and innovative speakers attending this year's event and welcome back several others who have made their marks on Alaska EMS.

Pre-Symposium Workshops

There are several high quality pre-symposium workshops from which to choose. These classes provide an opportunity to learn about a subject in more detail than is possible during the 90-minute presentations found on Friday and Saturday.

Wednesday and Thursday will feature three two-day courses. The first is *Incident Command System for Emergency Medical Services*. This is a National Fire Academy Training course that will be limited to the first 25 participants.

The next two-day course is *Pediatric Disaster Life Support*. This is a course developed by the University of Massachusetts Medical School and is designed to train healthcare providers in the assessment and treatment of children during disasters. This class is also limited to the first 25 participants.

The final two-day course is the new *Geriatric Education for Emergency Medical Services (GEMS)*. The GEMS course is designed to address all of the special needs of the older population, including the geriatric objectives as identified in the EMT-Basic, Intermediate, and Paramedic National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) National Standards Curricula. Register early, this course is also limited to the first 25 participants, and the deadline for registration is October 10th.

Wednesday there will be a one day course - *HIPAA Hysteria - Helping Ambulance Services Cope!* On Thursday we will feature one all day program - *EMS Management at Large Events and WMD*, one five-hour course - *Advanced Hazmat Life Support*, and four half-day sessions: *Working as a Team; Emergency Vehicle Operations; Tribal Injury Prevention Activities: Methods Used, Lessons Learned; and Injury Prevention in a Bag for EMS*. For more Pre-symposium information see pages 3, 10 and 11.

Opening Session

You don't want to miss this year's opening session. As in years past, we will announce the nominees and winners of many of the Governor's EMS awards. This will provide an opportunity for award winners and nominees to be recognized by their peers and colleagues during the Symposium.

Note: CME will be available for this session.

General Session

This year's General Session will feature Jeff Dyar, the Program Chair for EMS/Health & Safety at the National Fire Academy, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Mr. Dyar has worked in public, private, municipal, military, academic and federal capacities. Known for his team building skills and participative manage-

(Continued on page 3)

An Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Publication

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor

Joel Gilbertson, Commissioner

RESPONSE: EMS Alaska

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INJURY PREVENTION TRACK



Injury remains the number one cause of death for Alaskans age 1 through 44, and it is a major cause of death, hospitalization, and disability for all age groups. How can pre-hospital providers be actively involved with injury prevention before the 911 call? How can pre-hospital providers be involved with the prevention programs in their area?

EMS providers are perfectly positioned to use their training and experience to spread the injury prevention message to the public but often we overlook our ability to "market" ourselves to tell the public all that we do. One session will be devoted to that topic and how we get our message out to the public.

This year's injury prevention track will also include the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and all the Tribal Injury Prevention Programs throughout the state in a presentation of program successes and lessons learned.

Thursday afternoon will feature a new and exciting program on "Injury Prevention in a Bag". This program will teach pre-hospital providers about injury prevention methods, provide them with the necessary "gadgets," to change environments to reduce injury, as well as materials they can use when teaching in their communities, such as in schools or at Health Fairs.

We hope to see many of you at these presentations to learn from and be inspired by the excellent speakers we have lined up for this track.

On Friday, November 14, 2003, Providence Alaska Medical Center will sponsor the Safe Kids Luncheon for those who are active or interested in child safety issues. The luncheon will be limited to the first fifty pre-registrants. You won't want to miss this exciting luncheon!

CLINICAL TRACK



This year's clinical track promises to be exciting and has something to offer everyone.

The program will span three days, beginning on Thursday, November 13th.

Thursday is a full day with presentations starting at 8:30 AM and going to 5 PM. Please refer to the schedule beginning on page 7. In addition to the clinical track there are other options that participants may be interested in attending, such as the two-day *Pediatric Disaster Life Support* course or the 5-hour *Advanced Hazmat Life Support* course on Thursday. Be sure to check the entire pre-symposium schedule for other exciting programs. Continuing education credit will be available for all these presentations.

Friday is the official start of symposium with a clinical track

(Continued on page 3)

(continued from Page 1)

ment style, Jeff has been recognized by many audiences as an innovative visionary who has a talent for leading people. One such effort was rewarded by the President and Vice-President of the United States at a White House ceremony. Jeff is the recipient of the James O. Page Award from the International Association for Fire Chiefs for recognition of lifelong contributions to EMS nationally. He has commanded small and large events and disasters, such as the World Trade Center on 9/11, as well as working with federal agencies to include: FEMA, FBI, ATF, and the White House Disaster Planning Office on emergency response to terrorism issues. Jeff's General Session presentation will be "Is EMS Making a Difference?"

(Continued from page 2)

presentation starting at 8:30 AM and other presentations throughout the day until 5:00 PM. See page 8 for the entire schedule. Saturday there will be presentations in the morning with the Medical Directors breaking at noon for a luncheon and meeting the remainder of the day. Other participants can return at 1:30 PM for one additional 90-minute session.

Please take a look at the list of lecturers and topics we have assembled. We think you will agree that it is an exciting program. Southern Region EMS Council, Inc., designates this educational activity for a maximum of 15 hours in category 1 credit towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity. Nursing CEUs have also been applied for.

We look forward to seeing you in Anchorage in November at the 28th Annual EMS Symposium.

Pre-Symposium Highlights

Advanced Hazmat Life Support

Presented by *Zane Horowitz, MD and Robert Hendrickson, MD— Oregon Poison Center*



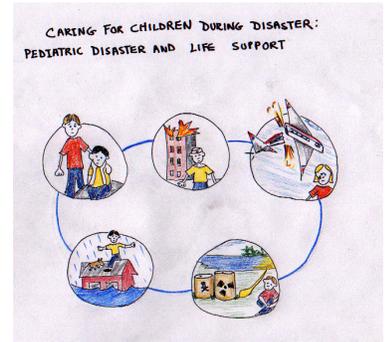
The Advanced Hazmat Life Support course is a 5-hour continuing education program for physicians, nurses, mid-level practitioners, and EMS responders. The course will cover the rapid assessment of toxic terrorism patients, recognition of toxic syndromes (toxidromes), treatment and medical management of toxic terrorism, and will discuss the specific antidotes, antibiotics, and vaccines for toxic terrorism patients.

The course will be held on Thursday, November 13, 8:00

AM—3:00 PM. Deadline for registration is September 29, 2003. See enclosed registration for more information.

Pediatric Disaster Life Support (PDLs)

Children are often the unintended victims of disasters and responders feel less prepared to handle children. PDLs is a two-day course that includes interactive lectures with "hands on" simulation, case presentations, and skill teaching stations to increase the comfort level of responders dealing with children and disasters. The course was developed by the University of Massachusetts Medical



School and includes a "train-the-trainer" component to develop instructors throughout the nation. The target audience includes: EMS physicians, nurses, paramedics, EMTs and other members of disaster response teams. The course will be held 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM on Wednesday and Thursday, November 12 and 13. Register early since space is limited.

Geriatric Education for Emergency Medical Services



Geriatric Education for Emergency Medical Services (GEMS) is a new course developed by the National Council of State EMS Training Coordinators and the American Geriatrics Society. The GEMS course is designed to address all of the special needs of the older population, since the proportion of the aged in our society is greater than ever before, and is the fastest growing segment of our population. Current indications are that approximately 34% of calls for emergency medical services, or 3.4 million emergency responses involve patients over the age of 60.

The GEMS course is innovative, comprehensive, and highly visual with: case-based lectures; live action video; hands-on skill stations; and small group scenarios. This will be an Advanced Life Support course offered Wednesday and Thursday, November 12 and 13, 8 AM - 5 PM at the Egan Convention Center.

Registration is limited to the first 25 participants and you must register by October 10th so that material can be sent to you to review before the course in November. You can visit the GEMS web site at: <http://www.GEMSSite.com> for more information about this new and exciting course.

(More Pre-Symposium workshop information on page 10 and 11)

Hotel Reservations

The hosting hotel is the Anchorage Hilton Hotel where the conference rate is \$81 per night. The toll free reservation line for the hotel is 800-245-2527 (in-state), 800-445-8667 (worldwide). Please be sure to use the code "EMS" or Alaska Emergency Medical Services 2003 to receive this special symposium rate. Contact the Anchorage Hilton Hotel as soon as possible and before October 10, 2003. Information regarding the shuttle bus service to and from the conference site will be available at hotel check-in.



We remind you of the importance of staying at our host hotel, the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, which is offering us this great room rate. While we realize that some of you may want to stay at other locations for a variety of reasons, your support is very important to the Symposium overall. Staying at the official host hotel assists in many ways, including offering significantly reduced costs for our speaker rooms, providing the shuttle service to the Egan Center, and other benefits based on the number of hotel rooms used. This in turn, allows us to bring you the highest quality speakers and helps us to keep the Symposium registration fees as low as possible.

Parking

The Egan Center is located on 5th Avenue between E and F Streets and there are many convenient options for parking nearby. There are approximately **800 free parking spaces** within a five-block radius of the Egan Center. Monday through Friday, between 9 AM and 6 PM, you may park for two hours on a block. On Saturday, Sunday, evenings, and municipal holidays, free parking is permitted at all metered spaces. Parking and garages nearby include:



JC Penney Garage (6th and E Street)
\$8.00 all day (50 cents/hour)
open: 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

6th Avenue Parking Garage (enter on H Street)
\$5.00 all day (75 cents/hour)
Open 24 hours

5th Avenue Parking Garage (5th and B Street)
\$5.00 all day (50 cents/hour)
Open 24 hours

Post Office Mall and Lower Bowl Lots (3rd Ave., between E and C Street)
\$.50/hour—2 hour metered lots

Dimond Parking Lots
Weekdays by the hour
Saturday, \$2.00 all day
\$15.00/day for valet parking in garage

Participate in the 26th Annual All-Alaska EMT Skills Competition

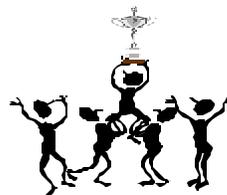
The King Career Center Emergency Services Technology Program and the Alaska Medical Support Team (AMST) are organizing the All-Alaska EMT Skills Competition. This annual event will be staged on Saturday, November 15th, in the Egan Center.

The organizers of the skills competition will distribute to all teams who pre-register a list of specific criteria by which the teams will be judged, as well as the criteria used for tie breaking. The criteria also will be sent to those organizations requesting them in writing.

Trophies and plaques for the top five teams will be presented at a ceremony during the awards banquet on Saturday, November 15th, at the Egan Center. In addition, prizes will be awarded to the top three teams. Entry forms are contained in this issue, if you have any further questions, please contact Southern Region EMS Council at (907) 562-6449.

All-Alaska EMT Skills Competition Rules

- Three practical problems will be selected from the EMT-I skills levels.
- Only one team (two members) from each organization may enroll.
- Each team is required to bring its own trauma kit, equipped as the members see fit. Any specialized equipment required for the practical will be furnished by AMST. If it is not possible to bring a kit, please let AMST know in advance and one will be supplied. No books will be allowed.
- There is no entry fee.
- Each team must send completed entry blanks before November 3, 2003, so adequate plans may be made for space. Late entries may be accepted on a space available basis.
- Each team is composed of two competitors and one judge. That judge will proctor a team other than the one from his or her service area. The judge may come from an area outside the team's service area. The judge must be certified to at least the EMT-I level.

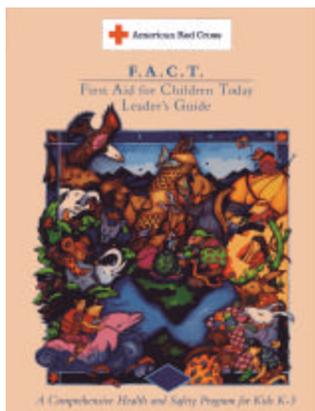


It's not too early to begin planning for the 2004 Alaska EMS Symposium! Topics and speakers will be largely determined by Symposium evaluations and letters. **Let us know your ideas!** Check your symposium program, Southern Region EMS Council, Inc., and the Section of Community Health and EMS web sites for the dates.



Response for the Little Guys and Gals

At what time in life do we first recognize we have control over our own health and safety? Doesn't it appear the young people in our communities are getting smarter?



Your American Red Cross has a dynamic health and safety program aimed at children in grades K - 3. This is the F.A.C.T. program, **F**irst **A**id for **C**hildren **T**oday. These materials are designed to help children learn how to understand the important role they play in managing their own health and safety, as well as the health of the environment in which they live. The purpose of this educational material is to teach children how to become aware of behaviors that can lead to injuries or illnesses and to teach them some ways to prevent injuries and how to respond to injuries. It also encourages them to make choices that will positively influence their health and their environment. There are six lessons outlined in detail. The content is culturally sensitive and embraces the animal kingdom to support key areas. The children will begin to know First Aid Fox, Healthy Hamster and Gordo Goat. Upon completion of all six lessons a colorful certificate is achieved.

This is a program that can be used in schools, after school programs, at church, youth group activities and anywhere else that you consider appropriate. Each child receives a workbook (about \$2.00 each, cost may vary with shipping and quantity ordered). A comprehensive instructors' manual is available. There are large posters for on-going displays. No certification or training is needed to teach this class. Consider having your mature teens as the instructors, thereby you have created a win-win situation, very similar to the successful model of teens teaching swimming lessons to this age group. Older children who may be challenged or disabled may also benefit from this material. Share your success stories so others can use your ideas as a model of greater health and safety through learning.

Contact your local American Red Cross Center to order the materials.

F.A.C.T. Program Kit – stock # **329790** includes the Leader's Guide, Fun Book and posters

F.A.C.T. Fun Book – stock # **329791**

Set of seven posters – stock # **329478**

Nancy Barros

Former Director of a small American Red Cross Chapter

Upcoming Regional Symposia

Southeast Region EMS Symposium

April 14—17, 2004

(4/14 & 4/15 are pre-symposium classes)

Sitka, Alaska

Information:

Southeast Region EMS Council, Inc.

(907)747-8005

serems@ptialaska.net

Interior Region 11th Annual EMS Symposium

March 31, April 1, 2, and 3, 2004

(3/31 & 4/1 are pre-symposium classes)

Fairbanks, Alaska

Information:

Interior Region EMS Council, Inc

(907)456-3978

<http://www.iremcs.org>

Alaska Public Health Training Institute



The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, will be sponsoring the second Alaska Public Health Training Institute in Anchorage, September 15—17, 2003.

There will be two courses available: *Public Health Epidemiology Methods and Concepts* and *Leading and Managing Change in the Community*.

Public Health Epidemiology Methods and Concepts will be an introduction to epidemiology methods used in public health practice and include assessment of disease/epidemic occurrences in communities, screening, distinction between association and causation, and the gathering, analysis interpretation, and presentation of data.

Leading and Managing Change in the Community will focus on the development of community health leadership systems. It will include a thorough study of Kotter's eight-step model of leading the change process.

Registration is \$85 and the deadline for registration is September 1. For more information and a copy of the registration form, visit our web site at: http://www.chems.alaska.gov/primary_care.htm.

Health Summit 2003

The Alaska Public Health Summit will be held in Anchorage, December 1 - 4, 2003. For more information visit: <http://www.alaskapublichealth.org>.



EMS Symposium Continuing Education Credits

Continuing education credits for EMTs and Mobile Intensive Care Paramedics, nurses, physicians and physician assistants are being arranged for most of the programs.

“Southern Region EMS Council, Inc. designates this educational activity for a maximum of 15 hours in category 1 credit towards the AMA Physician’s Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.”

Behavioral Objectives for all presentations will be available for viewing on Southern Region EMS Council, Inc.’s web site after September 15, 2003, at <http://www.sremsc.org>.

EMS Symposium Special Events

- ◆ There will be the Annual EMS Instructors Luncheon sponsored by Alaska Regional Hospital on Friday, November 14th, from 12:15 - 1:30 PM. It will be located at Alaska Regional Hospital, 2801 DeBarr Road. You can sign up to attend on the symposium pre-registration form. Space is limited to the first 50.
- ◆ The Annual All Alaska EMT Skills Competition will be held on Saturday afternoon. Once again, the skills competition is being organized by EMT-Instructor Alan Loken and sponsored by the Alaska Medical Support Team. (See page 4 for details)
- ◆ The 26th Annual Governor's EMS Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday evening at the Egan Center. Annual Governor's EMS Awards will be presented to a Consumer/Citizen, Provider, Administrator/Researcher, Nurse (the Melissa Ann Peters Memorial Award), EMS Educator, a Physician (the Longenbaugh Memorial Award) and an Outstanding Ambulance Service award will be presented.

Because of subsidies generously provided by several vendors, the cost for the banquet is only \$27. The menu will be a fresh spinach salad w/sliced almonds, shredded carrots, broccoli florets, croutons, w/ bacon dressing; Choice of Grilled Chicken with Tortellini or Grilled Sirloin Steak served with forestierre sauce; and chocolate mousse. Please indicate any special dietary needs when pre-registering.

Airfare



Alaska Airlines is offering discounted airfare for travel to the Symposium. They will give **10%** discount off **any** published excursion fares except for companion fares or other promotional offers. They will discount **10%** from YAS or FAS booked in “Y” or “F” inventory. All fare rules and blackout dates apply. Request code **CMR6595** when making your reservation.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR ANNUAL EMS AWARDS



The 26th Annual Governor’s EMS Awards Banquet will be held on November 15, 2003 at the Anchorage Egan Convention Center and will again provide us with an opportunity to honor individual Alaskans who have saved lives or reduced injuries of fellow Alaskans through heroic actions or meritorious service. Nominations can be made in the following categories:

EMS Citizen Award (person not in the regular line of duty who performs life-saving, limb-saving, or medical techniques in a medical emergency)

EMS Provider Award (medically trained person who performs meritorious service above and beyond expectations of the job)

EMS Administrator or Researcher Award (person who successfully develops a new approach, technique, device, etc. to improve EMS in Alaska and/or an outstanding administrator in an EMS agency or service)

EMS Educator Award (state-certified EMT or ETT Instructor who is dedicated to quality instruction and promoting the best in prehospital care or has made an outstanding contribution to EMS education)

George H. Longenbaugh, MD, Memorial Award (physician who exemplifies leadership and dedication to EMS systems and has significantly promoted the Alaska EMS system)

Melissa Ann Peters, RN, Memorial Award (outstanding nurse who has contributed in a special way to the encouragement of EMS skills, efforts, and education)

Outstanding Ambulance Service Award (for ambulance or first responder group that provides year-round service/gains community support in its service/educational activities)

Special Commendation (for air medical services, injury promotion/prevention, organizations and individuals that support EMS activities)

It’s not too early to begin thinking about who you would like to honor in your EMS service this year. Nominations for the awards will be solicited beginning the first week in August and the deadline for submissions is Friday, September 5, 2003. Nominations should be mailed to:

Shelley K. Owens
Section of Community Health & EMS
P.O. Box 110616
Juneau, AK 99811-0616

Further information about the award criteria or procedures can be found at the website for the State EMS Office at http://chems.alaska.gov/ems_awards.htm or by contacting Shelley K. Owens at 465-3028 or by email at shelley_owens@health.state.ak.us.

28th ANNUAL EMS SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

PRE-SYMPOSIUM WORKSHOPS

2 DAY WORKSHOPS

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12 & 13

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

(Management Track)

Incident Command System for EMS

Tom Wells
Anchorage, AK

Cost – \$200.00 (space is limited)

(Pediatrics)

Pediatric Disaster Life Support

Richard Aghababian, MD
University of Mass. Medical School

Cost— \$ 200 (space is limited)

(ALS Track)

Geriatrics Education for EMS

Debby Hassel
Cost—\$200 (space is limited and you must register by October 10th)

1 DAY WORKSHOPS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

8:00 AM—5:00 PM

(Management Track)

HIPAA Hysteria—Helping Ambulance Services Cope!

Doug Wolfberg, JD
Page, Wolfberg and Wirth

Cost—\$100

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

7:30 AM

REGISTRATION

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

(Management Track)

EMS Management at Large Events and WMD

Jeff Dyar
National Fire Academy, Maryland

Cost – \$ 100

8:00 AM—3:00 PM

(Prehospital/Clinical Track)

Advanced Hazmat Life Support

Zane Horowitz, MD
Robert Hendrickson, MD
Oregon Poison Center

Cost – See enclosed brochure

HALF-DAY WORKSHOPS

**Cost – \$60 each for AM or PM sessions or
\$100 for AM and PM**

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

(BLS/ALS Track)

Working As a Team

Wilma Vinton
Suzan Zehner
Fairbanks, AK

(Injury Prevention Track)

Tribal Injury Prevention Activities: Methods Used, Lessons Learned

Helen Andon
Ryan Hill
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

LUNCH

1:30 PM - 5:00 PM

(BLS/ALS)

Emergency Vehicle Operations

Jeff Bayless
Anchorage Fire Department

(Injury Prevention Track)

Injury Prevention in a Bag for EMS

Zoann Murphy
Community Health and EMS
Helen Andon
Ryan Hill
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

6:00 PM

Welcoming Reception
Anchorage Hilton Hotel

CLINICAL TRACK*

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Head Injury Guidelines

Frank Sacco, MD
Anchorage, Alaska

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

EMS and Public Health—Brave New World, or Worlds Apart?

Norm Dinerman, MD
Bangor, ME

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

LUNCH

1:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Crush Injuries

William Mills, MD
Seattle, WA

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Keep Cool but Don't Freeze

Ken Zafren, MD
Anchorage, AK

6:00 PM

Welcoming Reception
Anchorage Hilton Hotel

* "Southern Region EMS Council, Inc. designates this educational activity for a maximum of 15 hours in category 1 credit towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity."

Behavioral Objectives for all presentations will be available for viewing on Southern Region EMS Council, Inc.'s web site after September 15, 2003, at <http://www.sremsc.org>.

**All classes are held at the
Egan Convention Center.
Please note times and
special instructions.**

Don't forget to come to the Welcoming Reception. Food and no-host bar are available starting at 6 PM at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, Chart Room. The reception is sponsored by Southern, Southeast, and Interior Region EMS Councils, Inc.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM	<u>Registration</u>
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	<u>Opening Session</u> Mark S. Johnson, MPA, Chief Section of Community Health & EMS Matt Anderson, EMS Unit Manager Section of Community Health & EMS
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	BREAK
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<u>General Session</u> <u>“Is EMS Making A Difference?”</u> Jeff Dyar National Fire Academy, Maryland
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	LUNCH <i>Safe Kids’ Luncheon</i> Top of the World Hilton Anchorage <i>EMS Instructors’ Luncheon</i> Sponsored by Alaska Regional Hospital
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM (BLS/ALS Track)	<u>Stress Management for the Emergency Responder</u> Jeff Dyar National Fire Academy, Maryland
(BLS/ALS Track)	<u>“I Can’t Breathe”</u> Dennis Edgerly, EMT-P Littleton, CO
(BLS/ALS Track)	<u>TBA</u> William Mills, MD Seattle, WA
(Management Track)	<u>LifeFlight of Maine—Building Health Care Infrastructure in Turbulent Times</u> Norm Dinerman, MD Bangor, ME
(Injury Prevention Track)	<u>TBA</u>
3:00 PM – 3:30 PM	BREAK
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM (BLS/ALS Track)	<u>“Scrambled Brains, Neuro Trauma”</u> Jeanne O’Brien, RN, NREMT-P Tacoma, WA
(BLS/ALS Track)	<u>Preparing Patients for Transport</u> Stacey Sever, NREMT-P Anchorage, AK
(BLS/ALS/Injury Prevention Track)	<u>TBA</u> Robert Hendrickson, MD Portland, OR
(Management Track)	<u>Political Choreography in EMS—Leveraging Your Creativity and Surviving</u> Norm Dinerman, MD Maine
(Instructor Track)	<u>The Laws of Learning.</u> Dennis Edgerly, NREMT-P Denver, CO

CLINICAL TRACK

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	<u>“Toxic Foraging - the Truth about Mushrooms and Did Botulism Doom the Franklin Expedition?”</u> Zane Horowitz, MD Oregon Poison Center
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	BREAK
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	<u>General Session</u> <u>“Is EMS Making A Difference?”</u> Jeff Dyar National Fire Academy, Maryland
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	LUNCH
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	<u>Current Concepts in Soft Tissue Cold Injuries</u> William Wennen, MD Fairbanks, AK
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	BREAK
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	<u>Emergency Management of Burn Injuries</u> William Wennen, MD Fairbanks, AK

**** From 1:30 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.**
Airway Skills Lab will be in the O’Malley room. This is a drop in skills session offered by LifeGuard Alaska and coordinated by Brian Carriere, RN, EMT-P, CEN, CFRN

**Department of Health and Social Services
Distributes AEDs**

The Department of Health and Social Services purchased and distributed nearly 150 automated external defibrillators using funds received from the Health Resources and Services Administration under its 2002 Rural AED Grant Program. The Department coordinated the development of a statewide request for funding on behalf of agencies that submitted applications. Approximately \$237,000 in funding for AEDs, AED trainers and related items was received and the devices were distributed based on recommendations from a Proposal Evaluation Committee that reviewed the applications. A complete list of recipients can be found on the CHEMS web site at:

http://www.chems.alaska.gov/ems_aed.htm

The Department has submitted an application for funding additional AEDs, related devices, and training under the second year of the Rural AED Grant Program and, by October 2003, should know whether it was funded.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

(BLS/ALS Track)

Red Flags for Patient Assessment
Brian Carrier, RN, NREMT-P

(BLS/ALS Track)

Splint or Limp—Wilderness Care of
Extremity Injuries
Rob Janik, MICP
Sitka, AK

(BLS/ALS Track)

Through the Eyes of the Elderly
Tom Howard, MICP
Nome, AK

(BLS/ALS Track)

“My Two Week Bender”—DCS
from the Patient’s Perspective
Rick Janik, RN
Juneau, AK

(Management Track)

“Quality Improvement, to Get
Better, Not Punish”
Jeanne O’Brien, RN, NREMT-P
Tacoma, WA

(Injury Prevention/Clinical
Track)

Assessing Suicidal Risk
Robert Weldy
Kodiak, AK

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

BREAK

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

(BLS/ALS Track)

Difficult Airway Considerations
Rick Janik, RN and Rob Janik, MICP

(BLS/ALS Track)

Just Another Drunk
Dennis Edgerly, NREMT-P
Denver, CO

(BLS/ALS Track)

“The Six Major Nastiest Biologics”
Jeanne O’Brien, RN, NREMT-P
Tacoma, WA

(BLS/ALS Track)

S.T.A.R.T. Triage
Sue Hecks
Seldovia, AK

(Injury Prevention)

SEADOGS
Bruce Bowler
Juneau, AK

**** From 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Airway Skills Lab will be in the O’Malley room. This is a drop in skills session offered by LifeGuard Alaska and coordinated by Brian Carriere, RN, EMT-P, CEN, CFRN

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

LUNCH

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

(BLS/ALS Track)

12 Lead EKGs for Dummies
Tom Howard, MICP
Nome, AK

(BLS/ALS Track)

Medic Madness
Master of Ceremony:
Valerie DeFrance, MICP

1:30 PM

Skills Competition

7:15 PM

No Host Cocktails

8:00 PM

EMS Awards Banquet

CLINICAL TRACK

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Assessing Suicidal Risk
Robert Weldy
Kodiak, AK

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

BREAK

10:30 AM - 12:00 AM

The Asthmatic that Doesn’t
Improve
BJ Coopes, MD
Anchorage, AK

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

LUNCH

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Sudden Cardiac Death
Maggie Barnett, FNP
Anchorage, AK

MEDICAL DIRECTORS MEETING

12:00 PM - 5 PM

Medical Director’s Luncheon followed by the Medical Director’s Meeting

7:15 PM

No Host Cocktails

8:00 PM

EMS Awards Banquet

**Assessment of Alaska’s
Injury Prevention Program**

During the week of July 21-25, 2003, the State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors Association (STIPDA) sponsored a national team of experts to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Injury Surveillance and Prevention Program in the Section of Community Health and Emergency Medical Services (CHEMS). The report developed by this team highlights the strengths and weaknesses of the program, and it includes a large number of recommendations for strengthening the program in the future. It is based on national consensus standards for five major components of a state health department injury prevention program, developed by STIPDA. Major finding for this State Technical Assessment Team (STAT) review was provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A copy of the report will be posted on the CHEMS web site at <http://www.chems.alaska.gov>.

Alaska Public Health Training Network

Alaska Public Health Training Network (APHTN) is a distance learning system for training of public health staff based out of the Division of Public Health, Section of Community Health and EMS. It broadcasts programs through the University of Alaska Southeast.

It reaches many Alaskans and its health care workers with training and informational programs on a wide range of subjects such as Bioterrorism, Emergency Medical Services, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Infection Control, Tobacco and Poison Control. APHTN has broadcasted about 140 bioterrorism and health related programs since it first started in January 2001. It's programs can be viewed by more than 64 percent of Alaskans at this time. We have about 2,100 registered participants of the APHTN programs, and most of them are public health nursing staff, emergency medical services and, fire-department staff, physicians, health aides, and other health care workers.

APHTN has established a website to help participants to find upcoming programs, and to register and evaluate programs at <http://www.chems.alaska.gov/phtn>. APHTN has reached an agreement with Alaska Health Education Consortium (AHEC) to provide the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. credited Continuing Education Contact Hours (CECH) to certified health education specialists in Alaska.

APHTN broadcasts a health-related program every Thursday morning from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM over the UATV (formerly UAS/AK 3) signal. Independent satellite dish holder can view this program with little effort.

Currently APHTN is airing these programs over cable television in the following communities:
General Communication Inc. (GCI) - *Anchorage* (Channel 9), Barrow Cable TV - *Barrow* (Channel 55), GCI - *Bethel* (Channel 43), Craig Cable TV - *Craig* (Channel 36), Nushagak Cooperative - *Dillingham* (Channel 11), GCI - *Eielson AFB* (Channel 6), GCI - *Fairbanks* (Channel 96), GCI - *Ft. Wainwright* (Channel 6), Haines Cable TV - *Haines* (Channel 14), GCI - *Hoonah* (Channel 34), GCI - *Juneau* (Channel 18), GCI - *Ketchikan* (Channel 11), GCI - *Kotzebue* (Channel 98), GCI - *Nome* (Channel 98), GCI - *Petersburg* (Channel 11), GCI - *Seward* (Channel 4), GCI - *Sitka* (Channel 4), Eyecom Cable TV - *Unalaska* (Channel 37), GCI - *Valdez* (Channel 20), and GCI - *Wrangell* (Channel 11).

The programs can be viewed on home TV or at the local Public Health Center's auditorium, which is the site coordinator for the APHTN programs. Some of the participants are viewing the APHTN programs through a satel-

lite dish where there is no cable provider (e.g. King Cove, Delta Junction, Kenai).

Communities not listed above are encouraged to contact their local cable distributor for the need of UATV/ Alaska Public Health Training Network. Usually Public Health Nurses and EMS staff request to air APHTN program in communities. Distance Learning Coordinator can recommend the University of Alaska to provide a digital Integrated Receiver Decoder (IRD) to local cable distributor. The IRD will enable the local cable distributor to deliver the UAS/AK 3/ Alaska Public Health Training Network programs without displacing its own regular commercial television programs.

The APHTN is funded by the State of Alaska Public Health Preparedness and Response to Bioterrorism Focus Area G: Education and Training grant. The grant is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For more info contact Raj Maskay, Distance Learning Coordinator at (907) 465-2991 or Raj_Maskay@health.state.ak.us.

Pre-Symposium Workshop **Alaska EMS has Injury Prevention in the Bag!**



The "EMS has Injury Prevention in the Bag" program is ready for implementation! With funds from the Rural Hospital Flexibility Program, the Injury Surveillance and Prevention Program (ISAPP) has put together 100 bags full of safety devices such as carbon monoxide detectors, yak trax, and bath thermometers for rural EMS providers to distribute in their communities.

This is a pilot program; a two-hour curriculum has been developed which includes a PowerPoint presentation on injury prevention as well as time to examine and practice with the safety devices. By the end of the training, EMS providers will be able to: describe the problem of injuries in Alaska; be able to list at least four different injury prevention programs in Alaska and know the contact person for each program; determine if their service is ready to implement an injury prevention program; be able to describe at least one 'teachable moment' for injury prevention; and, know how to identify and use the safety devices provided in the bag.

The program is a half-day pre-symposium workshop on Thursday afternoon, and we plan to offer several travel scholarships for EMS providers to attend the symposium and receive the training. ISAPP staff is also available to travel to rural communities to present the program. The goal is to have the PowerPoint presentation available for all EMS

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services to use as part of their regular training schedules. We are working with the Training Committee on getting continuing education credits for this program.

For more information, please contact Zoann Murphy at the State Injury Prevention office, 465-1185, or e-mail: zoann_murphy@health.state.ak.us.

Remember: Injuries are Predictable and Preventable!

Pre-Symposium Workshop
HIPAA Hysteria -
Helping Ambulance Services Cope!

*Are you struggling with what the new
HIPAA rules mean for your department?*

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) establishes requirements for ambulance services and other health care providers to protect the privacy and security of patient information. Federal law also requires providers to begin submitting claims electronically to Medicare, and HIPAA requires that providers who bill electronically begin to use a new, approved electronic format if they want their claims to be paid. In short, HIPAA poses one of the biggest compliance challenges for Ambulance services in recent years. The regulations require new policies, procedures and forms relating to patient privacy, and this seminar will review the requirements of the HIPAA privacy regulations with specific explanations and examples for ambulance providers on how to comply with the law with practical tips on what to do. Specific areas will include releasing patient information to law enforcement, communicating with dispatch and broadcasting patient information over the radio, dealing with media requests, releasing information to family members, disclosing patient information in CISM teams, and other situations that ambulance providers frequently encounter.

Doug Wolfberg is an attorney from Page, Wolfberg & Wirth, LLC, one of the nation's leading ambulance, EMS and medical transportation industry law firms.

This is a vitally important issue for EMS agencies, no matter what the size. A limited number of scholarship stipends will be available to EMS department representatives to help offset the cost of travel and attendance. For more information contact Southern Region at 562-6449 or email cwengenroth@sremsc.org.

Injury Study Finds Disparities Persist

Regional and racial disparities persist in Alaska in unintentional injury occurrence and death, despite overall downward trends in incidence rates. Disparities between Alaska Natives and other race groups have actually worsened in rates of suicide and suicide attempts, especially among youth. The *Alaska Women and Children Injury Disparities Project* (a Division of Public Health project funded by the Bureau of Maternal and Child Health, HRSA, US DHHS) looked at patterns and trends in injury disparities, with a focus on youth and young adult women. This analysis was based on injury hospitalization data (Alaska Trauma Registry, 1994 to 1999) and injury death data (Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics, 1981 to 2000).

Two fact sheets with additional data are available in PDF form at: <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/profiles/injuries/>. The final report and detailed data will be posted to the same web page.

Aniak Holds "Dragon Slayers Kick Ash" Camp

On July 21, 2003, seventeen youth from several villages gathered in Aniak to begin two weeks of learning how to fight fire, treat injuries, and to prevent those events from happening in the first place. Many of the trainees heard about the job when the Aniak Dragon Slayers toured villages speaking about and demonstrating skills involved with the vital service they provide for their community.

When the Dragon Slayers became part of the Aniak scene, Pete Brown, Aniak Volunteer Fire Department Chief, had a dream of extending those skills to surrounding villages in Alaska. He thought the best way was to hold a summer training camp in Aniak where youth could learn skills for becoming first responders to trauma and fire in their villages. His dream came true this summer.

During the two weeks the trainees will work hard, some harder than they've ever worked before to learn the challenges of the job. Hopefully, they will come away from the camp with a good sense of accomplishment along with sighs of relief that they got through the training. Good luck to them. Congratulations to the camp instructors and the communities that will be served for supporting and having these positive youth present in Alaska villages.

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