What's New… What's Not… What Could Be!

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Please Do Not Shoot the Messenger!

What’s Going On…

• Hurricane Sandy and New York State
• A Little EMS Data
  – People
  – Agencies
  – EMS Calls
• National EMS Education Guidelines
• EMS Funding
• Article 30 of the Public Health Law
Lee’s Disclaimer

EMS Response to Hurricane Sandy

Hurricane Sandy at 22:25, October 29
**Who Would Have Guessed?**

- As a result of the storm...
  - Approximately 40 health care facilities were evacuated
  - Between 6,000 and 7,500 people evacuated and relocated
  - An estimated 75 health related facilities operated on generator power

**EMS Support**

- FEMA’s National Ambulance Contract

**NAC Assets**

- Requested and received 360 staffed ambulances and support logistics
- Assets used for evacuations, relocations and home wellness checks
- In NYS for 6 weeks
- Cost... approximately $50 million
- NYS is on the hook for 25% of the costs
Some Lessons Learned...

• Wow! Who would have thought!!!!
• The NAC providers were perfect guests and operated in NYS with distinction.
  - Patient tracking and record keeping
• Could have used 1/3 fewer NAC ambulances with the same effectiveness

Some Lessons Learned...

• In the NYC metro area... we NEED the NAC!
• Need a formalized process for requesting NAC and...
  - Identification for staging locations
  - Logistics for re-stocking, fueling and feeding
  - On sight BEMS liaison
  - Demobilization plans

Some Lessons Learned...

• We knew about the health care facilities...
  - ... but what about the home care programs?
  - ... or the people who are at home, ill or incapacitated, but not in programs?
  - ESRDs???
  - Health care folks (not EMS) are not good with ICS
What About Our NYS Ambulance Services?

• Those that were affected were located in Brooklyn, Queens and the south shore of LI
• Several lost stations and vehicles
• Most lost soft supplies, office equipment, files and furniture.
• All are back in service!

As For Me…

• I spent so much time in NYC... I though I would have to pay property tax
• I got to know the Commissioner of Health, Dr Shah - what a nice person!
Certified EMTs by Level

Statewide

Certified EMTs by Level

N= 60,904
Valid after 7/31/2012
The State’s EMS Services

- As of December 31, 2013
  - Ambulance Services
    - 1075
  - Advanced Life Support-First Response
    - 102
  - Basic Life Support-First Response
    - 615

Whose Doing the EMS Calls...

Certified EMTs by Level

- CFR
- EMT-B
- EMT-I
- EMT-CC
- EMT-P

- Southwest
- All Lakes

- 100%
- 90%
- 80%
- 70%
- 60%
- 50%
- 40%
- 30%
- 20%
- 10%
- 0%

- 49%
- 25%
- 12%
- 7%
- 6%
- 1%
- 0%

Commercial
Municipal
Independent
Hospital
FireDept/Districts
Other
EMS Education

Should we be rethinking how we do things?

Why, What, Where, How and When

- Why: A "new" national standard
- What: CFR and EMT Curricula
- Where: The effect on EMS education in NYS
- How: Objectives, textbooks and examinations
- When: Effective dates
The National Perspective

- The 2009 National EMS Education Standards (the Standards) represents a step toward realizing the vision of the 1996 EMS Agenda for the Future, as articulated in the 2000 ES Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach.
- The Standards define the minimal entry-level educational competencies for each level as identified in the National EMS Scope of Practice Model.
- Eventually, the Standards will replace the current DOT National Standard Curricula (NSC).
- The less rigid Standards format supports diverse implementation methods and more frequent content updates.

Why In NYS?

- The Educational Standards are/will be nationally recognized
- They set the standard of practice
- The education allows for portability of the EMS certification
- It was developed within the current EMS environment
- We owe our EMS providers!

What Does this Mean?

- The Standard is comprised of 4 components - the minimum required for the entry level
  - Competency
  - Didactic knowledge
  - Clinical behavior/judgments
  - Educational infrastructure
Competency

- The minimum competencies required for entry into each level of certification/licensure
- The skill sets

Didactic

- The knowledge entry level candidates are required master to achieve competency

Clinical Behavior/Judgments

- This section describes the clinical behaviors and judgments necessary for entry level EMS personnel at each certification level...
Educational Infrastructure

• Describes the support standards necessary to conduct EMS educational programs at each certification level.

What Will This Look Like?

• Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
  • Approximately 80 hours
  • Focuses on correcting immediate life-threatening issues until a high level of care arrives

• Emergency Medical Technician
  • Approximately 170 hours
  • Returns to diagnostic approach

What Will This Look Like?

• Advanced Emergency Medical Technician
  • Similar to NYS EMT-I... but...
  • Does not include tracheal airways
  • Includes a small number of medications

• Paramedic
  • 1800 hours or more...
  • Being used in current programs
Implementation Process

- Review of the guidelines
- State EMS Council Approval
- Development of an objective based curriculum/teaching guide
- Practical skills exam update
- Written exam revisions

EMS Funding

EMS Dedicated Funding

- The Governor’s executive budget allocated $19.7 million.
- This funding level is the same as it has been for the last 5 or 6 years...
- Our “cash ceiling” is $15.6
A Work in Progress

- Evaluated historic funding trends
- Examining the demands of the new EMS curricula
- Working within the DOH to request additional funds for EMS training
- Working with the State EMS Council’s Budget Committee

Funding for the Future

???

Article 30
We can no longer have 2 cats watching 1 spider!

Will Article 30 Change?

- SAGE – Spending and Government Efficiency
  - Streamline organizational structure of State Government
  - Identify operational improvements
  - Develop targets to improve performance and make government more transparent and accountable
  - Identify non-critical activities

Gov’s Budget Bill...

- EMS was removed as a part of the state budget negotiation process
- But...this is an ongoing project!
- There were some very positive things included in the process.
Some of the Good Stuff

- Enabling “community paramedicine”, ALS providers to work in PODs and give inoculations.
- Consolidate the 4 state EMS councils
- Streamline the 18 regional EMS councils
- Medically driven...

Some More Good Stuff

- Authority to issue agency and prehospital care provider certification
- Develop statewide standards for
  - Medical Control
  - Scope of practice
  - EMS protocols
- Establish minimum standards for
  - Education & training
  - Certification
  - Credentials

The Commissioner and the Department

- In consultation with an advisory group
  - Review and update the standards for EMS, hospital emergency department, trauma centers, burn services and disaster care
  - Designate hospitals at various levels of trauma centers
  - Designate hospitals for pediatric specialty care.
EMS Education

• Proposals include a definition of a scope of practice for each level of EMS certification.
• This will enable NYS to enact the Nation EMS Education Standards and update training curricula
• The proposal makes PERMANENT the 3 year continuing medical education recertification programs!

Change is Hard...

• The current Article 30 is 20+ years old!
• It was written to address a different time and generation of EMS Community.
• As hard as change is... it can be good!

It’s Time For Change

• Our EMS System has changed in the last 20 years! A lot!!!
• We face many challenges ahead...
  - Health care structure
  - Financial
  - Human resources
• Updating the law may allow for flexibility and growth for today and tomorrow’s EMS structure.
• Go forward with education and information!
Questions?

Where: Rochester Convention Center
When: October 23 through 26
Information: www.vitalsignsconference.com

EMS Memorial Dedication
Empire State Plaza  May 15, 2014  11:00 am

Vital Signs EMS Conference  - 2014 -

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Questions?

Thank You So Much for Coming!