



# Hot Topics



The Genesee County Medical Control Authority's

Newsletter for EMS Providers - Also now available online at [GCMCA.org](http://GCMCA.org)

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## Stroke

The GCMCA PSRO recently reviewed stroke data provided by Michigan's Ongoing Stroke Registry to Accelerate Improvement of Care (MOSAIC). The data compares both pre-hospital and outcome data for our community with the rest of the state. The report showed that we have a higher percentage of stroke screenings done and last known well documented, as well as shorter transport and response times than state averages. We also meet the on-scene time benchmark of 15 minutes or less.



Unfortunately, we did not excel in all areas of the report. Areas for improvement include performing a glucose check and activating/alerting the hospital with an incoming suspected stroke. Please make sure that all suspected stroke patients have their blood sugar checked to rule out mimics and make sure you are clearly stating during your radio report, "Stroke Alert, Stroke Alert, Stroke Alert." In some cases, the PSRO believes that the low numbers of activations may be the result of improper documentation. **To assist with this, we have provided the attached education document that shows you how to note a stroke activation on your ePCR through ImageTrend Elite.** Keep up the good work and let us know if you have any questions.



## SART – E.A.S.I.E.R.

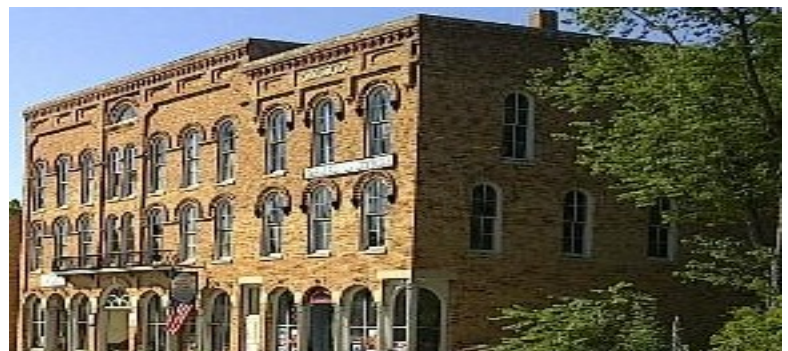
The Genesee County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) has been active for a few years and has recently updated their protocols for response and care of these vulnerable patients. In most cases 911 will have already dispatched law enforcement, who have been thoroughly trained on the team and how victims should be handled for referral to SART. In rare cases where EMS is first on scene and no law enforcement has been called, you should be aware of the program, call 911 and request law enforcement, and understand the EASIER process in these situations.

**E**xplain – you are there to help, so show compassion and explain that you are there to assist them during this difficult time. **A**ssess – the patient for both their medical condition, but also scene and patient safety. **S**ANE – Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners are trained nurses who will aid the victims upon arrival at the hospital. Be familiar with their role, function and training. **I**nterview -this is primarily the function of law enforcement, but you should understand what they will be doing here in preparation for their arrival. **E**vidence – try to preserve any evidence that may help in the investigation. **R**esources – again, this is mostly for law enforcement in sharing information with the victim. **More details on EASIER is attached for information, so please take a few minutes to review them.**

## Mystery Picture Contest!!

If you can correctly identify the location of the picture below you could win a \$10 gift card. Be the first person to contact us with the correct answer and you will win.

(Hint: it is in Genesee County)



# Go to the "Activities" Tab:

The screenshot displays a medical software interface with a sidebar on the left and a main content area. The sidebar contains several tabs, with 'Activities' highlighted in blue. The main content area is titled 'Activities' and contains five sections: 'Assessments', 'Vitals', 'Medications', 'Procedures', and 'Medical Devices'. Each section has a '+ Add' button. Below these sections are two search fields: 'Airway Complications Encountered:' and 'Suspected Reasons for Failed Airway Management:', both with 'Find a Value...' text and menu icons. At the bottom of the interface, there is a status bar with a patient icon, the text 'No Patient Name Entered', a validation number '-195', a menu icon, and a 'Status: In Progress' dropdown menu.

Find field...

Save Print PDF EKG Messages (0) Close Times

! Incident Info

! Patient Info

! Patient History

Activities

Activities

! Complaint Info

! Narrative

Transport/Destination Info

Supplemental Questions

Billing Info

Signatures

### Activities

Assessments

+ Add

Vitals

+ Add

Medications

+ Add

Procedures

+ Add

Medical Devices

+ Add

Airway Complications Encountered: Find a Value...

Suspected Reasons for Failed Airway Management: Find a Value...

Med Device

Meds

Procs

Vitals

Vital

All

No Patient Name Entered

-195 Validation

Menu

Status: In Progress

Scroll down to Hospital Team Activations and click “Add”:

The screenshot displays a medical software interface with a sidebar on the left and a main content area. The sidebar contains a search bar and a list of menu items: Incident Info, Patient Info, Patient History, Activities (highlighted), Complaint Info, Narrative, Transport/Destination Info, Supplemental Questions, Billing Info, and Signatures. The main content area is titled 'Activities' and contains three sections: 'Procedures' with an '+ Add' button, 'Medical Devices' with an '+ Add' button, and 'Hospital Team Activations' with an '+ Add' button. Below the 'Hospital Team Activations' section, there is a form with two rows: 'Date/Time of Destination Prearrival Alert or Activation:' with two input fields and 'Destination Team Pre-Arrival Alert or Activation:' with a dropdown menu. The bottom of the interface shows a status bar with a patient name field containing 'No Patient Name Entered', a validation count of '-195', a menu icon, a status dropdown set to 'In Progress', and a 'Next' button.

After you place the Date and Time in, then select the type of Activation you did:

The screenshot displays a medical software interface. On the left is a navigation sidebar with red and blue buttons for sections like 'Incident Info', 'Patient Info', 'Patient History', 'Activities', 'Complaint Info', 'Narrative', 'Transport/Destination Info', 'Supplemental Questions', 'Billing Info', and 'Signatures'. The 'Activities' section is currently selected. The main area is titled 'Activities' and contains several input fields: 'Procedures' with an '+ Add' button, 'Airway Complications Encountered:' with a 'Find a Value...' search box, and 'Suspected Reasons for Failed Airway Management:' with another 'Find a Value...' search box. Below these is the 'Medical Devices' section, also with an '+ Add' button. A dropdown menu is open under 'Medical Devices', listing options: 'NO', 'Yes-Adult Trauma', 'Yes-Pediatric Trauma', 'Yes-Trauma (General)', 'Yes-STEMI', 'Yes-Stroke' (which is highlighted in blue), 'Yes-Cardiac Arrest', 'Yes-Obstetrics', 'Yes-Other', and 'Find value...'. At the bottom of the screen, there is a status bar showing 'No Patient Name Entered', a validation error '-195', a 'Menu' icon, and a 'Status: In Progress' dropdown.

If you select other, please also, document in the Narrative what the other type was.

## EASIER

<b>E</b> <b>EXPLAIN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Offer compassion and empathy to encourage a positive rapport with victims. Use FETI -- Forensic Experiential Trauma Interviewing -- recommended greeting upon meeting sexual violence victims: "I am sorry this was done to you, this is not your fault, and I am here to help you."</li><li>• Only ask for information immediately needed to assess the situation; investigators will conduct a more detailed interview.</li></ul>
<b>A</b> <b>ASSESS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Immediate Healthcare Needs:</b> Was the assault acute (within 5 days) or non-acute? Any physical injuries? Self-harm? Safety?</li><li>• <b>Detox:</b> A sexual assault victim who is intoxicated should be taken to the hospital for a SANE exam before being assessed for Detox. If date rape drugs are suspected (e.g., Rohypnol, GHB, etc.) request a urine test by SANE ASAP.</li><li>• <b>Current Location:</b> Make sure the space is safe and private for the interview.</li></ul>
<b>S</b> <b>SANE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners provide medical care and evidence collection at Genesys, Hurley, McLaren, and at the YWCA for victims ages 12 and up.</li><li>• Law enforcement will NOT be present during the exam but CAN accompany/assist/transport victim to the hospital.</li><li>• Victims aged 12 and older may be examined at ANY ER in Genesee County or at the YWCA Flint if the assault occurred within 120 hours (5 days).</li><li>• For children age 11 and under, please proceed to Genesys or Hurley.</li><li>• Genesee County hospitals partner with YWCA Flint to provide on-site advocacy with SANE exam.</li><li>• If incident is not acute, medical follow up should still be advised in order to address other potential issues, such as pregnancy, STDs, mental health, injuries.</li><li>• <b>SUSPECT EXAMS:</b> All Genesee County hospitals can perform a suspect exam to collect forensic evidence. Law enforcement should obtain a court order/search warrant that details the evidence to be collected PRIOR to bringing the suspect to hospital for exam.</li></ul>
<b>I</b> <b>INTERVIEW</b>	<p><b>Victim Interview</b> -- Use <b>FETI</b> interviewing practice</p> <p><b>Approach:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Respond to every victim of sexual assault with a professional, compassionate demeanor</li><li>b. Assume every sexual assault report is valid and investigate thoroughly, fairly, and competently.</li><li>c. Tell the victim that you are sorry this happened.</li><li>d. Reassure the victim that s/he is safe</li><li>e. Acquire only information immediately needed to assess situation, including victim, offender and witness information; request victim and witness phone numbers, including alternate numbers where the victim can be reached.</li></ol> <p><b>Questions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Address injuries or immediate medical needs</li></ol>



## FINAL DRAFT

- b. Ask open-ended questions such as, “can you tell me what you’re able to remember about \_\_\_\_ (incident, description of perp, location, senses, feelings, etc.)?”
- c. Ask the victim to describe what they recall thinking, feeling, saying and doing before, during and after the sexual assault.
- d. Take care not to ask the victim to explain or justify actions or responses, reassure you’re not there to judge them.
- e. Ask about the first person the victim told about the assault.

### **Non-acute reports:**

Document the reason the victim waited to report. Keep in mind that most sexual assaults are reported after a delay, for several legitimate reasons.

### **Other offenses:**

Consider not charging drug, alcohol, or other less serious offenses (misdemeanors) committed by the victim in favor of investigating the more serious sexual assault report.

whether the person has an outstanding warrant, what it is for and what bail has been set.

**Witness Interview:** Try to interview the first person the victim told about the assault; then any witnesses immediately available.

## **E EVIDENCE**

1. Collect any immediate evidence such as clothing, bedlinens, condoms, or other items that may contain DNA.
2. Explain to the victim why this is important.
3. Photograph entire crime scene and any visible injuries on victim (for corroboration of details).
4. Consider evidence preservation for suspects, including suspect exams.
5. Obtain a medical release authorization form with victim’s signature from the hospital.
6. Collect and inventory the CSC kit as evidence.

## **R RESOURCES**

Provide victim with:

1. The complaint number
2. Resources for relative agencies based on the age and location of the victim