



Hot Topics



The Genesee County Medical Control Authority's

Newsletter for EMS Providers - Also now available on line at GCMCA.org

One Hurley Plaza, Flint 48503

Office Phone 810-262-2555

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Get Your Flu Shot!!

There is no current mandate to get an annual flu shot for EMS providers, but we strongly encourage you to do so. As a health care provider you will be exposed to the flu and will have a higher risk of getting sick than most people.



In addition, you can be carrier of the flu and not experience symptoms. This puts your already vulnerable patients at risk of getting the flu from you,

complicating other illnesses they are experiencing.

Finally, don't fall prey to the myth that the vaccine will give you the flu. That is simply not true. Stay well and get vaccinated!

UNUSUAL TRANSFER CASES

Non-emergency transfers are a common event in an EMS provider's life, and most are routine and straightforward. But sometimes you get something that is out of the ordinary. For example, we had a case recently where a patient's family was in contact with their physician in the back of the ambulance during transport. The physician requested that the patient's destination be altered to a different location in mid-transport.

Keep in mind that the sending facility/physician is the one in charge of your transfer. If something like this occurs, contact online medical control of the sending facility for direction.

Also know that if the patient's status changes/degrades during transport that you are to contact online medical control, alter your initial destination and get the patient to definitive care. Don't forget to report these cases to your agency as the GCMCA reviews them on a monthly basis.

Canceling ALS or Clearing a Patient BLS

As EMS providers you know that the information provided to 911 is limited and often inaccurate. Because of that the needed EMS resource for patients will often be different than what was dispatched to the scene.

As you arrive on scene and assess the patient, keep in mind that you may or may not need additional resources or may need to cancel resources that are unneeded. If you are a BLS crew and have ALS intercept on the way, make sure you do a thorough assessment of the patient BEFORE you cancel the ALS unit. MFR units are not allowed to cancel BLS or ALS units, unless no patient is present.

Conversely, if you are an ALS unit intercepting with a BLS crew, make sure that the BLS crew is completely comfortable transporting the patient without a paramedic riding in. You may believe that the patient will be fine traveling to the hospital without ALS care, but if the patient is borderline and the BLS crew is apprehensive, take the time to support the crew.

Winner – Brandon Compton

There were many, many correct responses to our last mystery picture contest of an old television show. But Brandon Compton was the first one we heard from. For his quick reply he received a \$10 Amazon gift card. If you did not win, fear not. We will have another contest in the next newsletter, so keep trying!

