



Hot Topics



The Genesee County Medical Control Authority's

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

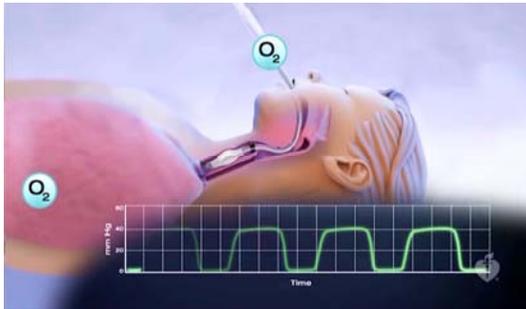
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Using End Tidal CO² Detectors *Study Shows Under Use of Important Device*

The GCMCA PSRO recently completed a review of End Tidal CO₂ detector use for a one-month period of time.



The device was used in only 14 cases and 57% of those cases were cardiac arrests. Often times medics limit use of detectors when assessment, differential diagnosis, and treatment could be improved with a broader use.

Any situation where a breathing concern is involved could afford an opportunity to pull out the CO₂ detector. While it is appropriate to use these devices in any respiratory distress scenario (asthma, COPD, pneumonia, etc), there may be other instances, like anxiety for example, where it could prove beneficial. As a side note, begin in October 2020 the state will require that all ALS units be equipped with waveform capnography.

Bed Bugs – Steps to Avoid Exposure

With summer comes an increase in bed bug infestations, which for EMS providers and other health care workers means another risk to your health and safety. Make sure that if you have been informed by 911 that a potential infestation is at the home you are responding to that personal protection is in place prior to entering (including booties, gloves, etc.). If not informed in advance, look for potential signs on bedding, carpets, and other fabric type surfaces.



Should you encounter a patient with a bed bug infestation, inform the hospital prior to transport so they can prepare for the patient's arrival. After patient care is completed notify 911 so they can flag the address for any future responses to that location. Finally, make sure your agency is aware that a patient with bed bugs was transported in the unit so it can be thoroughly cleaned prior to another call.

For more information on this topic and to pick up 0.5 CEs, go to the American CME website at the following link for an online education program: <https://americancme.com/courses/view/19>.

Safe Delivery of Newborns

Did you know that there is a state law that allows an individual who has recently given birth to a baby to voluntarily give up the baby to law enforcement, fire, or hospital officials without penalty of abandonment? The law has been in place since 2006.

It also includes a provision for EMS to accept a child, but only in cases where the provider is responding to a 911 call. If you encounter a situation where an individual attempts to give up their child to you and you are not responding to a call for care of that patient, then make sure they understand the potential consequences.

Enjoy Your Summer!

