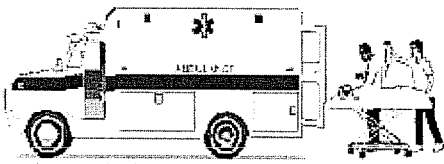
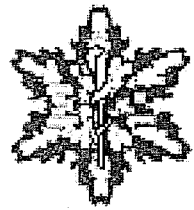


SUMMER 2008

Newsletter Date 7/22/08

NORTH COUNTRY E M NEWSLETTER



NEW CQI SCREEN

Special points of interest:

- Tenth Annual Spring Fling
- New Regional CQI Screen
- www.funcmes.com
- Program Agency News and Trainings
- Fall EMT Classes
- CLI Prescreen and Class
- Wave-Form Capnography

Major Trauma Screen— enclosed please find the next North Country Regional Screen. When a patient meets major trauma criteria per NYS BLS Protocols the transport agency should complete this screen and send it back to our office with their PCR's by the 15th of the following month. This screen is two pages or may be copied front to back by the agency. To ensure accurate data please make sure that you check off the MOI and physical criteria for the appropriate age group (more than 1 may apply.)

Blood Glucose for Basics

North Country EMS Regional Advisory Committee has approved Blood Glucometry for Basic Providers within the North Country Region. If your agency is interested in having BLS providers do finger sticks to determine blood glucose levels on a patient, you must complete a limited laboratory application and mail it to the NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WADSWORTH CENTER CLINICAL LABORATORY EVALUATION PROGRAM to receive a registration number. Make sure the application is dated 5/08 on the bottom or it will be rejected. **The most recent application can be found on our website and you no longer need to complete a disclosure of ownership (DOH-3486). The application was simplified after the Program Agency presented the old application during the regional updates.** Once you have a registration number you can complete the North Country regional and DOH-4362 paper work and then a training can be set up through the program agency for your providers. ALS agencies should have a limited laboratory registration number already, if not this is the time to make sure that you do, especially if the agency is going to allow BLS providers to do finger sticks. If you have any questions please feel free to contact our office.

Visit us at
www.canton.edu/ncems

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Continuous Quality Improvement

*** Attention All Transport Agencies ***

In an effort to become more proactive with continuous quality improvement, we are asking that you please send in the continuation forms with your PCR's, as well as any ECG strips.

Cardiac Screen

The Cardiac Screen deadline arrived on March 31st, 2008. North Country EMS Program Agency would like to thank everyone for their assistance in completing the screens and enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of the findings. Each agency should have received an agency specific report from the previous mutual aid/ALS intercept screen and the regional report can be viewed on our website. New screen announcement on the front cover.

Wave-Form Capnography

I am sure most of you have heard the news that wave-form capnography will be required on every ALS Ambulance by January 1, 2009. Wave-form capnography must be used when intubating a patient who is breathing and on all pediatric patients, and they must be monitored continuously during transport with it. While this is a mandate that has a financial impact on your agency, I ask that you please look at the benefits to your patients and the protection this tool offers you as a provider. Wave-form Capnography should also be used on all cardiac arrest patients because it can truly show how well a patient is being ventilated. This is a tool that gives us a window into the ventilation and perfusion status of our patients that we have never had before and is proven to be very beneficial to our patients.

Automatic ALS Dispatch

Recently, we have received some concerns in regards to BLS agencies cancelling ALS units that have simultaneously been dispatched before assessing the patient. Please remember that if ALS is dispatched simultaneous with a BLS agency, the EMT-D may cancel the responding ALS unit if the patient does not require ALS Care. **This decision should only be made after assessing your patient and the reasons should be documented on your PCR.** (NC REMAC Policy Statement 98-04)

On-line CME's

www.funcmes.com

In today's world we always seem to have more things to do than there is time for in the day. I am sure many of you can relate with that! North Country EMS Program Agency has teamed up with five other regions to offer on-line CME's to EMS providers. Please take a moment and go to **www.funcmes.com** and check it out for yourself. We will continue to add programs to this site so monitor it closely. You will need to take the quiz and mail, fax, or e-mail it back to our office to obtain credit you must receive a passing score and we will send you a certificate that you can provide to your CME manager for regional CME's.

Certified Lab. Instructor Prescreen and Course

Jefferson County EMS (JCEMS) will be holding a Certified Laboratory Instructor Prescreen on September 20, 2008 at the Jefferson County Fire/EMS training center at 9:00 am. Upon Successful completion of the Prescreen you may attend the Certified Laboratory Instructor class on October 18 and 19, 2008 at the same location. The class will be 8:00 am to 5:00 pm both days. Please contact JCEMS at 315-786-3760 for more information and to register.

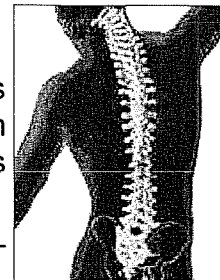
North Country EMS Program Agency

Director— Ann Smith, EMT-CC, CLI Secretary— Tammy Liscum

* **Suspected Spinal Injuries** (Not Meeting Major Trauma Criteria)

As many of you are aware, NYS has introduced a new BLS protocol that allows for selective spinal immobilization meaning that, once trained, providers can choose not to immobilize low risk patients that meet certain criteria. All providers must be trained on this before December 31, 2008.

NYS DOH Bureau of EMS strongly encourages all training sessions be conducted by Certified Instructor Coordinators (CIC). In the event a CIC is not available a Certified Laboratory Instructor (CLI) is acceptable. If a CIC and CLI are unavailable to a particular agency, then the appropriate training officer for the agency can conduct the training, but only with the approval of their medical director.



Please see the inserts for trainings in a location near you and watch our website for additional trainings as they are scheduled. Jefferson County trainings to be announced.

* **In-Service Announcements**

Star Lake Fire Department

PCR Documentation

4:00 pm— 6:00 pm

Edwards Fire Department

Albuterol, Epi-pen and ASA

6:00 pm—9:00 pm

Please RSVP North Country EMS Program Agency at 315-379-3977 if you plan to attend.

* **Spring Fling**

The Ninth Annual Spring Fling was a success with over 267 providers participating in the Saturday ALS/BLS lectures. The North Country EMS Program Agency would like to thank you for your continued support and for making the conference a huge success. We look forward to seeing you next year!

Mark your calendars early .

The Tenth Annual Spring Fling will be April 23-24, 2009.

* All transport agencies please remember to send your PCRs to the office by the 15th of the following month. We are required to report to the state those agencies that don't send them on time.

* We would like to thank all the providers who have provided us with up-dated information and please remember to update our agency when you receive a new card, change your agency, address, phone, or e-mail. We ask that you send copies of EMT cards or picture ID via snail mail instead of faxing them as they are frequently illegible when received by fax.

* **PLEASE SEND A COPY OF YOUR OPERATING CERTIFICATE TO OUR OFFICE WHEN YOU RECEIVE THE NEW ONE.**

* There are openings for St. Lawrence County seats on the REMSCO. If you are interested in being part of the council, please send a letter of interest to the North Country EMS Program Agency at NCEMS, 34 Cornell Drive, WH 027, Canton, NY 13617

* **Any North Country EMS agency that would like to recognize a member, a community event you participated in, a new ambulance, or just to recognize the agency as a whole can submit an article and/or picture for the newsletter. Please send it to smitha@canton.edu and we will include it in our next edition.**

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER!

Fall EMT Classes

ST. Lawrence County

Contact SUNY Canton @ 315-386-7102. Registration deadline is 8/8/2008

Course	Instructor	Location	Dates	Days	Times
Basic EMT Original	Donald Thompson	Nevaldine North 102	August 27, 2008 – December 18, 2008	Mondays, Wednesdays, and some Saturdays	6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. 9 a.m.-noon, 1-4 p.m.
Basic EMT Refresher	Robert Bromley	Nevaldine North 115	August 28, 2008 – December 18, 2008	Tuesdays and Thursdays	6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Advanced EMT Intermediate Original	June Wood	Nevaldine North 115	September 4, 2008 – December 18, 2008	Tuesdays and Thursdays	6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Advanced EMT Intermediate Re-fresher	June Wood	Nevaldine North 102	September 4, 2008 – December 18, 2008	Tuesdays and Thursdays	6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Lewis County

Call Mark Tuttle at 315-376-5303 or email at mtuttle@lewiscountyny.org or JCEMS @ 315- 786-3760 for more information and to register

Course	Instructor	Location	Dates	Days	Times
Basic EMT Original /Re-fresher	Mark Deavers, CIC	Avis Graves Training Center	Monday August 21, 2008— December 18, 2008	Monday and Wednesdays	9:00 am—12:00 pm

Jefferson Community College will be offering Advanced EMT Intermediate, Critical Care, and Paramedic classes starting August 26, 2008. Application deadline is August 1, 2008. Call Jeannine Gomiela for more information @ 315-786-2244 or contact the JCC Advising Center at 315-786-2478

Jefferson County EMS

Contact JCEMS to register or with questions @ 315-786-3760

Course	Instructor	Location	Dates	Days	Times
Basic EMT Original	Jeff Lieberman	Fire/EMS Training Center	August 12, 2008 – December 18, 2008	Tuesdays and Thursdays	7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Basic EMT Refresher	Joe Bova	Fire/EMS Training Center	August 18, 2008 – December 18, 2008	Mondays	7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Advanced EMT Critical Care Refresher	TBA	Fire/EMS Training Center	August 20, 2008 – December 18, 2008	Wednesdays	6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Advanced EMT Paramedic Refresher	Deb Fults	Jefferson County Public Health	October 23, 2008 – March 19, 2009	Thursdays	6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Certified First Responder	TBA	Fire/EMS Training Center	September 2, 2008- November 20, 2008	Mondays and Wednesdays	7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.