

**McHenry Western Lake County
EMS Council Report
January 25, 2007
By Cindy Amore, RN**

IDPH Update:

- **EMT Exam Update:** The question bank development will be an ongoing project to insure the best in quality for updating exams. A combined review session was conducted on 12/28- Laura Dagdick and Diane Mehlman represented our System at this meeting to review/develop EMTP and EMTB questions.
- **EMT Testing Schedules-** The 2007 testing will be coordinate by Continental Testing Service. Reasonable testing sites for our area will include- College of Lake County, Elgin Community College, Rock Valley College and Holiday Inn, Gurnee. Our students from fall 2006 are being registered for the EMTB exam at the Gurnee site on February 24th. All levels of EMS testing will be offered at each site. Access to testing will be available monthly, however not at all sites Testing dates are posted on the IDPH- EMS website.
- **Legislative and Planning :** **Next Leg/Planning Meeting: Wednesday, February 28th 1pm-3pm at the ICEP office in Oakbrook Terrace.**

The *Statewide SOP committee* met to organize and will be looking at the BLS standards of care. This will be a topic of discussion for the EMS Medical Directors meeting. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 31 – 1pm at the ICEP office in Oakbrook Terrace.

Rules/Regulations subcommittee will meet monthly in an effort to review language updates to reflect current practice in EMS delivery with changes in IDPH operations. These meetings are conducted on the **3rd Thursday of each month 10am-Noon- teleconferenced to Sherman Hospital.**

Education Subcommittee is scheduled to met- January 22nd

Bill Brown from National Registry discussed the Computer-based testing process

- **IDPH EMS Advisory Council-** Chief Webster and I attended the meeting held on December 14th in Kankakee. Most of the discussion focused on the upcoming EMT testing and the ongoing development of the exam question banks. Bill Brown from National Registry also address the group regarding the changes coming in the National Registry exam; and the location of testing sites within the state of IL.
- **Next Meeting of the IDPH Combined EMS /Trauma Advisory Council- Thursday, March 8th- EMS Forum begins at 10am preceding the Council Meeting, which begins at noon- Location TBA**

Region IX Update:

- Dr. Gallant has been elected chair of the EMS Advisory Council for a 2-year term
- The final revisions of the Regional SOP's have been completed, approved by the 5 EMS Medical Directors and forwarded to IDPH for review and approval.

- Regional Disaster Planning Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, January 24th hosted by Sherman Hospital at the Holiday Inn, Elgin. This meeting included a tabletop exercise in Pandemic Flu response and planning.
- **NEXT Region IX EMS Advisory Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 13th at Sherman Hospital – Elgin – 9am**

System Update:

- Spring CE will begin next week. The training will address:
 - Skill Training- EZ IO (intraosseus access device)
 - MAD (intranasal medication delivery)
 - SOP Revisions
 - Airway Skill Competancy
 Details of training sessions and a calendar of the scheduled dates will be mailed to ALL ALS EMS providers-both primary and secondary.
- **NEXT EMS Council Meeting: Thursday, March 22 – 9:00 am Fox River Grove**

MCC Report:

- **Spring 2007:** Spring EMS classes are underway. The offerings include:

EMS 105 First Responder: Tuesday evenings 7-9p- W. Peterson –24 enrolled
 Thursday evening 7-9p- W. Peterson- 24 enrolled
 Day time- Tech Prep (2/5-3/9 M-F) 7-9a - D. Mehlman: 21 enrolled

EMS 110 – EMT-Basic: Monday/Wednesday 7-10p D. Peterson-18 enrolled
 Tuesday/Thursday 7-10p D. Peterson- 21 enrolled

EMS 121/122-EMTP: Monday/Wednesday 6-10p L. Dagdick-23 enrolled
- **EMTP Bridge Course:** We continue to move forward with the development of an EMTP Bridge Course to offer an opportunity for licensed Paramedics who were not initially trained in a Community College program to enter MCC as an Associate Degree in EMS candidate. The bridge course will be 1-semester in length and meet the competencies for credit for EMTP training. This leaves the candidate with the requirements for the remaining core courses and the general education requirements in completing the degree requirements. We will be partnering with Rock Valley College to provide this program, as they do not currently have an EMS degree program or a college credit EMT-B or EMTP program. Our plan will include offering the Bridge course on site at Rock Valley at least one semester each year, and then offering on site at MCC once a year as well.