

**Report to CHAP Directors & ARC
EMS Training Committee 1/28/15-1/30/15
Submitted by Jean Rounds-Riley, PA-C 2/17/15**

State EMS Office:

- The State EMS Office is interested in working more closely with CHAP. They would like to know how they can contribute to CHAP, what does the CHAP program need from them? There is some interest in the State EMS office and ACEMS about the “community paramedicine” or “mobile integrated health care programs” or “Remote and Rural Prehospital collaborative” or “Frontier EMS” programs. These are all variations on an international movement within EMS to train EMS responders (not necessarily at the Paramedic level) in some preventive and primary care skills, to better utilize resources and provide broader care in underserved areas. They are wanting to see how we can work collaboratively to provide the best care in remote and rural communities around Alaska. Torie Heart and I spoke with Ron Quinsey, EMS Officer I-Training last month, to give him some background information about CHAP and some of the challenges CHAP is facing.
Given the current financial and training pressures, please think about this, and send me your ideas of how CHAP and Statewide EMS can collaborate to provide care. We may have an opportunity to meet with several members of the State EMS office March 23 to discuss this.
Please send me your ideas by the middle of March: jroundsr@anthc.org
- ACEMS would like nominations for EMS Awards early. See “EMS Awards” section on State EMS website: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Emergency/Pages/acems/awards/default.aspx>
- Still working on the policies for internet-based computer testing for all State EMS exams. (Intended to improve efficiency, allow immediate feedback, and help ensure exam integrity.)
 - The EMT-1 written exams have been completely revised, to be consistent with the National Agenda objectives.
 - The National Agenda teaching has a higher “Bloom level”: more critical thinking skills, and not just hands-on skills or “technicians”. The new State Exam is formatted much like the National Registry exam: student needs to select the “most right” or “least wrong” answer, rather than a clearly correct answer. Will be used state-wide 2/2015.
 - The State Office has developed vocabulary lists, videos of some new/specific content, powerpoints, recommended websites, practice tests, etc. These will be distributed to EMS instructors (and eventually available on-line).
 - State is developing an on-line orientation to the new test process and implementation has begun.
- Adoption of National EMS Education Standards core content for EMS courses
 - The State office is working on a transition course for EMT-1 Instructors
 - **CHAP NOTE:** Some of this content differs from the 2006 CHAM (e.g. use of tourniquet for bleeding control). Recommend ARC/eCHAM address this
- On-line Certification: all EMS providers need to create or claim an on-line account within the Alaska EMS Certification Management system. Instructions are on the State EMS website
 - The on-line Certification system was implemented, starting with EMT-1 Recertifications expiring 12/31/14, and for initial EMT-1 Certifications, and certification of ambulance services.
 - By next year hope to have accessible data about # of providers at each levels (ETT through Paramedic), locations, services etc.
- Working on several additional projects:
 - Improved training and communication with Medical Directors
 - Mapping of pediatric emergency services and care to determine statewide needs
 - Implementation of recommendations made in the NHTSA report (see state website)

- **Regulations changes:**

- The first set of Regulation changes has been finalized and was implemented 12/26/14.
- Please see the official summary of these Regulations on the State EMS website:
<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Emergency/Pages/ems/default.aspx>
- The State EMS Office anticipates the next batch of Regulation Changes will focus on EMS Training issues and should go out for Public Comment in Spring 2015

EMS Training and CME:

- Interior Region EMS <http://iremasc.org/> Symposium will be March 25-28, 2015 in Fairbanks
- SouthEast Region EMS <http://www.serems.org/>
 - Symposium will be April 16-19 2015 in Juneau
 - ETT:
 - 9th Edition ETT book is completed. Contact Thor 907-747-8005 at SEREMS
 - Working on Instructor materials will be available on-line (scenarios, sample schedules, etc.)
 - Few optional modules now (ambulance operations, traction splints, KEDS)
 - Revising ETT policies, on-line registration. Will continue to be a Registration process (not Certification), SEREMS will manage this more closely
 - There is a new \$10 application fee
 - Working with the State EMS Office for on-line database, so an ETT will get a Registration number, which can convert into an EMT Certification number and track through the State system as the provider advances and maintains certifications.
 - Kept the minimum hours for basic ETT course at 40, with CPR a prerequisite.
 - Renewal: 16 hours Continuing Education and perform Skills verification (will no longer need to repeat the written exam)
 - Working with UAS to update the hybrid course, goal to finish by fall 2015
- YKHC has established protocols for doing BLS check-off via video-conferencing. (not using recording mannequins—instead utilizing video capabilities of zooming in to skills closely.) Will be pilot testing in Sub-regional clinics, with hope of expanding as the system is refined.
- Southern Region EMS
 - Symposium Nov 4-7 2015 in Anchorage
 - CME: plans to develop a monthly synchronous webinar CME to be presented in the evening. They do not plan to record or distribute this for later viewing. (Cost to be determined)
 - Reaching out to First Responder services to work on QA/QI issues

CHAP CB requested EMS Training Committee consider whether or not the National Emergency Medical Responder is “equivalent” to Alaska Emergency Trauma Technician.

- After some discussion, the Training Committee felt that these courses are NOT equivalent. They said the EMR curriculum lacks bleeding control, shock and patient transport. However, some of the EMR textbooks do include these topics. They suggested CHAP CB might consider accepting EMR as hiring/entry level, if the employer then assessed the responder’s skills and taught the new CHA those skills included in ETT that are lacking in EMR. (The CHAP EMS Skills list could be used to itemize skills taught.)

EMS Training Committee meetings proposed dates and locations:

April 28, 29, 30 2015 Fairbanks (IREMS)--tentatively
September 29-Oct 1, 2015 Anchorage (SREMS)