Exciting changes and challenges have occurred in EMS in 2018. BLS protocols were updated, and ketamine is soon to be available in paramedic protocols for Waterbury Hospital. There have been many educational CME opportunities ranging from Head Injuries, Dealing with Excited Delirium, and Trauma Case Reviews. We are working on a full line-up of CME’s to follow for the remainder of the year. Remember to check the statewide protocols and OEMS forms for changes as they are continuously updating them to serve you better.

On May 23rd, we will be hosting our annual EMS banquet. All members of EMS are cordially invited to attend. We hope to see you supporting your peers who will be recognized during EMS week banquet. In addition to the banquet, we will be providing food in the EMS room throughout the week as a small token of appreciation for everything you do. We recognized your job is not easy and is one of the most significant links in the chain of survival for our communities.

We at Waterbury Hospital would like to express our sincere gratitude for everything you do while serving our communities with honor and pride while upholding your oath of service in EMS. We look forward to working with you and advancing the field together by collaborating and implementing advances that benefit our EMS family, communities, and patients.

CT Statewide EMS Protocol Update
Version 2018.1 of the statewide EMS protocols was released on March 27, 2018.

Updates/Revisions
- An emergency change, would be a request identified due to a medication/equipment shortage/supply issue, or dramatic shift in standard of clinical care that would result in a risk to public health by delaying review and implementation to the annual review cycle. Due to the emergent nature of these requests, review would be expedited and the decision would be communicated to the petitioner in five business days.
- A desired change, would be a non-emergent request, and reviewed by CEMSMAC on a quarterly basis, or sooner. The decision would be communicated to the petitioner once it is available.

EMS Week
EMS week is right around the corner! Coming up, the week of May 20, 2018, Waterbury Hospital will be providing some extra food in the EMS room including bagels and coffee. Our Annual EMS Banquet will be held on May 23, 2018 from 6 – 9PM and we will be focusing on case reviews with Dr. Akunyili and Jose Diaz, EMT-P. Also, during that evening, we will be honoring some of our local hero’s. Please RSVP for this event because it involves some extra planning.
Waterbury Hospital – Trauma Time

With the arrival of springtime weather, so is the arrival of “Trauma Season”. Typically from April to September, this season brings a 50 percent increase in patients injured by major trauma, including motorcycle accidents.

In these last 3 weeks of April, since the weather has started to improve, the Waterbury Hospital Trauma team has already cared for 5 motorcycle and 3 ATV trauma activations. Out of these 8 motorcycle/ATV trauma activations, only 2 of those patients were wearing helmets!

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), on average, motorcycle helmets reduce the risk of death by 37%, reduce the risk of traumatic brain injury by 65%, and save the U.S. approximately $3 billion each year in health care and societal costs. Current CT state law requires helmets only for riders under 18 years of age.

Any questions, thoughts, ideas, concerns, or feedback in regards to the care of the trauma patient at Waterbury Hospital? Please contact Monika Nelson, Trauma Program Coordinator – mnelson2@wtbyhosp.org

Upcoming Events

May 17, 2018—Trauma Grand Rounds
Felix Lui, MD, Associate Professor of Surgery, Yale School of Medicine will be the speaker for “Abdominal Trauma: What’s New?” in the Bizzozero Conference Room at 9AM.

May 20 - May 26, 2018—EMS Week

May 23, 2018—EMS Banquet/Awards, 6pm - 9pm, Bizzozero Conference Room

May 24, 2018—Ebola/Emerging Infectious Diseases Functional Exercise, 9AM—noon in the Emergency Department

June 20, 2018—CME - Trauma Case Reviews, 6pm - 9pm, Bizzozero Conference Room.

If you have any suggestions or questions pertaining to EMS including patient follow-ups, please contact us at ems@wtbyhosp.org.

Waterbury Hospital’s New Decon Tent

On Friday, May 13, 2018, Waterbury Hospital’s Emergency Management held a training session going over the setup of its new decontamination system. AMR, Waterbury Fire and Police sent crews over to check out the new tent and how easily it can be setup. From the time we receive your patch, to the time this unit is fully operational, is under 15 minutes. The tent blows up in 3.5 minutes. According to the manufacturer, 104 female, male and non-ambulatory patients can be put through decon in one hour. The tent is fully mobile and has additional options including a portable hot water heater, portable air heater, gray water tank and all of the hose connections to hook it up to a positive water source. Waterbury Hospital’s employees will be doing some additional training with FEMA this summer to start up a Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT).