

Combined ALS / BLS Protocol Project – Meeting #2 Date & Time Change

This Thursday is the first meeting for to begin the process of gathering input on existing protocols, suggestions for possible revisions, and the development at the end of the process of a combined ALS / BLS set of protocols – which will help to ensure that as future revisions are made to a particular protocol, guidelines for ALS and BLS personnel are not conflicting. Dr. Russell is inviting any and all providers to be part of the process. **There is also one date and time adjustment that Dr. Russell has requested, as he will be attending the QI conference on March 11-12 mentioned in the next article:**

This week!

- Meeting #1: 2/26 10am - 12pm - Ron Richeson Training Center @ EMS Office
- Meeting #2: ~~3/12 2pm - 4pm - Burlington Fire Meeting Room~~
Now FRIDAY 3/13, 10:30 - 12p - Ron Richeson Training Center @ EMS Office
- Meeting #3: 3/24 - 10:30AM - noon - Anacortes Fire Department
- Meeting #4: 4/9 - 2pm - 4pm - Burlington Fire Meeting Room
- Meeting #5: 4/30 10am -12 noon - Ron Richeson Training Center @ EMS Office
- Meeting #6: 5/7 10am - Ron Richeson Training Center @ EMS Office
- Meeting #7: 5/30 10a-12 noon - Ron Richeson Training Center @ EMS Office

The first part of this process Dr. Russell is looking for as many thoughts and ideas as people have. Then in the next phase a smaller work group of ALS and BLS providers will refine the protocols and develop a draft document, which both he and Dr. Curran will then review together. If you are interested in being part of this process, please join us at as many of the above meetings as possible. In the meantime, if you have questions, you can email Dr. Russell at skagitmpd@icloud.com.

Improving What Matters: EMS QI That Produces Results

The North Region EMS & Trauma Council is presenting the following conference here in Skagit County in March:



WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

An effective strategic planning approach that leads to execution rather than excuses. Easy to apply tools to improve performance. Tools from the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, Six Sigma, Lean, Deming, Baldrige, and others adapted for use in EMS. Ways to charter and manage a project so that it produces real results. How to collaborate and create a patient centered program. How to build a balanced dashboard of vital measures to show how your organization is performing in the areas that matter most. How to use the quality award process to perform a stem to stern assessment of your program so that all vital areas are addressed. Strategic use of customer and employee surveys to keep your efforts on track. Leadership skills to make all of this work.

SPEAKERS: Dave Harrawood and Mike Taigman

DATES: March 11th and 12th, 2015

TARGET AUDIENCE: Pre-hospital and hospital personnel involved in quality improvement

PRICE: Register by March 6th, 2015; Both days: \$100.00, One day: \$75.00

LOCATION: Swinomish Casino, Anacortes, Washington

For more information or to register, visit the North Region EMS website at: www.northregionems.com

LAST CHANCE
2014 BLS OTEP

This weekend!

FINAL 2014 EMT OTEP MAKE UP

This is the absolute, final opportunity for all BLS Providers to make up any missed education sessions from 2014.

The Final 2014 OTEP/Code Review makeup will be held at the **Sedro Woolley Fire Dept, 325 Metcalf St. on Saturday February 28th at 8am.** Please make sure that all 2014 EMS Online Modules have been completed **PRIOR** to attendance. No RSVP/signups required, just show up.

Ambulance Documentation Essentials Training

Maggie Adams will explain the ever-changing requirements of documentation. This training is an excellent opportunity for everyone from the career paramedic who has written hundreds of reports to the newest EMTs who are just learning the finer points of documenting patient care. Using a very down-to-earth approach, Maggie offers practical tips on documenting the important elements of patient care. All providers are encouraged to attend one of the following four training sessions:

March 2 nd	6:00 – 8:30pm	EMS Office Training Room
March 3 rd	11:30am – 2:00pm	Burlington Fire Department
March 3 rd	7:00 – 9:30pm	Burlington Fire Department
March 4 th	9:00 – 11:30am	Anacortes Fire Department

Community Response and Support Referral Program

EMS and NWRC hosted a meeting today (2/24/15) which was attended by representatives from nine Skagit County Fire & EMS agencies, as well as NWRC, the EMS department and Skagit County Public Health. NWRC representatives explained the referral process and answered questions.



The goals of the program is to reduce the frequency of 9-1-1 calls for social and other low-acuity needs, and help to ensure that citizens are not falling through the cracks, but rather have a strong understanding of what resources are available and know how to access them. Responders on 9-1-1 calls simply identify potential needs on a standardized form; receive patient consent; and send the referral form to NWRC (fax 360-428-1302) after the call. NWRC's Aging and Disability Resources staff then contacts the individual, screens to determine the individual's needs and assists them in connecting to services within Skagit County.

NWRC will also provide feedback directly to an assigned contact at each fire/EMS agency so responders know what actions are being taken based on the referral. If no one from your department was able to attend today's meeting, but would like more information, please contact Melody Coleman at colemmm@dshs.wa.gov.

That's all for this week – stay safe and thanks for all you do!

Skagit County Department of Emergency Medical Services

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