Volume 7 | Issue 4 | 2026

CMEMSC Newsletter

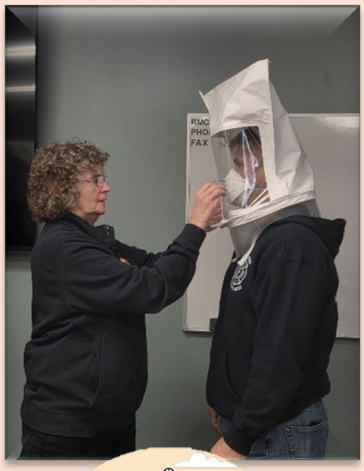
THE REGION II RESPONDER

DICO Workshop Recap

On Friday, March 13th we hosted a designated infection control officer (DICO) workshop. It was another packed house with another dozen people attending virtually. It is always great to have the opportunity to network and learn together. Infection control is not the most glamourous or exciting topic, but it certainly is relevant. Melissa Cumming, MS, CIC, NRP with the Princeton Fire Department provided a wealth of knowledge on infection control policies and procedures and Bill DeVarney shared all things OSHA that might affect a fire or EMS department. We finished the afternoon with some respirator fit testing. It was a lot of information! If you missed the training, we have section set up on our TO Portal to share. Reach out if you do not have access to the Portal.

2026 Annual Meeting and EMS Awards Night

The 2026 Annual Meeting takes place on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at the Auburn Elks. The nomination committee had their work cut out for them. We had a record number of nominations, and really good ones too! We look forward to seeing all our Corporate Members and Award winners. There will be lots of pictures in the next newsletter. Annual Meeting time also means that our regular meetings will be suspended for the summer, unless urgent business arises. Watch our website for any meetings postings.



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STP 2026.1 Training In-Person or on Our LMS

There were a lot of changes and additions to the protocols this year. Central Mass EMS has you covered. A PowerPoint Presentation is available on the **EMS Training Officers Portal** for use by any of our members to teach in-person. We also have a recorded copy of it on our Learning Management System (**LMS**) in case you have stragglers that miss the class or for those looking for the update on their own. If you have any questions about this or about putting together your own presentation, reach out anytime.

You Can Transmit Your 12-Leads Again

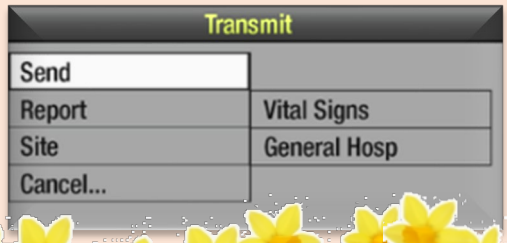
Did you know that both St. Vincent's and UMass University can accept 12-lead transmissions again? They are both trialing the Stryker LIFENET Care® system. This is a streamlined system that allows EMS to send EKG transmissions to the hospital teams to activate a STEMI, with the goal of reducing door-to-balloon time. So how does it work?

- Press the Transmit button on your LifePak or Zoll monitor
- Scroll to the "site" and select your PCI-capable destination, St. Vincent's or UMass University
- Press Send
- In your **CMED STEMI alert**, let the doctor know you sent the EKG

This can be used with both LifePak and Zoll monitors. You will need a modem for your monitor or WiFi in the ambulance of course.

If you need help setting up or have technical questions, reach out to the EMS Account Manager:

Sammy Ferrera
sammy.ferrera@stryker.com
508-596-7771



Another BLS Instructor Class in the Books

We had a full class for our March 20th BLS Instructors class. We love watching candidates get comfortable with the materials and then presenting it themselves. The ACLS and PALS Instructor classes scheduled for April and May are full, with a waiting list. We expect to run more classes in the fall. If anyone needs a provider class, we have a lot of new instructors that need to be monitored teaching so let us know and we can set you up.

CMED Call(s) of the Month

Felt a little cheeky writing for this one.

A routine polyp removal procedure became anything but routine when a 39-year-old male required ER transport due to "unretrievable equipment" that was left behind by the physician. Rectum? Darn near killed him! We hope everything came out alright. Makes you wonder a little more about what they mean by "internal medicine". Ok, I'll clench it up with the bad puns and butt out now.

What doesn't kill you…Gives you a lot of unhealthy coping mechanisms and a sick sense of humor.

What is the RFI About CMED All About?

You may have received an email from the Department of Public Health (DPH) about a request for information (RFI). They are looking for input about the CMED system from all the various users of the system. If you are reading this newsletter, you know how the Region 2 CMED system functions. We would love you to send input that tells of your experience. Not all CMEDs offer the customer service that Worcester does. We certainly do not want to lose the opportunity to serve the EMS community that we love. Please send in your emails to oems@mass.gov **by Monday, April 13th** with the email subject line **"CMED System RFI Response."** The complete RFI document can be found here. It has a list of questions, but you are welcome to include any input that you have.

CMED MCI Trailer Work

The Regional Council has the responsibility to maintain and deploy the MDPH Regional Mass Casualty Support Units (MCI Trailers). This year we are stripping one of them to give it a deep cleaning and to reorganize the contents. We have such a great group of CMED operators. Not all like being in pictures but they do great work on the radio and on these extra projects!

Where's Pete the Cat

You will find Petey, our famous EMS cat hidden throughout the newsletter, sometimes once but maybe more. If you find him, send an email and let us know where you spotted him. Before the next newsletter issue, we will randomly select one of the respondents to receive a little prize and acknowledgement in the next newsletter. Remember he could be hiding anywhere!

Last month Petey could be found on the front table at our Legislative Briefing as well as hanging on the wall at the WooSox Tabletop Exercise. **Paramedic Larry Deutsch** was our first to point him out. A special shout out to **EMT Sue Geyster** as well since she spotted him on the table during our ChemPack exercise. We didn't even realize he was in that picture! If you spot him in this issue, simply send an email with his location(s) to information@cmemsc.org and there could be some goodies in the mail for you too.

"Despite the forecast, live like it's spring."
— Lilly Pulitzer