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CMEMSC Newsletter

REGION II RESPONDER

Do You Know What a ChemPack Is?

We aren't surprised if you don't. They haven't been widely publicized, on purpose. The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) is a national repository of pharmaceuticals. The ChemPack portion of the program consists of containers of nerve agent antidotes pre-deployed for rapid response. We have several host sites across the Commonwealth. Their whereabouts must remain confidential but after a Central Mass hosted tabletop exercise this spring, we realized the need to make sure people know they exist, and how to get them.

Here is a just-in-time training flyer with more information about organophosphates and nerve agents as well as what all EMS providers should know about requesting the ChemPacks.

STP 2026.2 Update Training on CMEMSC LMS

Shortly after the STP 2026.1 had to be implemented, 2026.2 was released from MDPH. There were some changes that they felt shouldn't wait until 2027. There was a little hiccup with the initial release of the 2026.2 version so make sure any copy of the PDF you may have downloaded has an implementation date of **September 1, 2026.** This will ensure your copy is correct.

If you need training on 2026.2, you can head over to the Central Mass EMS LMS. The new class was just uploaded and is ready. A PPT training is available to EMS Training Officers on our secure portal.

We certainly enjoy being able to bring timely education to our providers. We also enjoy the feedback our LMS receives. Here are 2 notable comments from the 2026.1 class.

"XXXXXX offered an online STP update. It was 25-minutes and had NOTHING of significance such as the changes to… This was much better done than a paid subscription."

"Very well put together. Kudos!"

But I think our favorite comment was this one: ""**The AI generated voice was meh."** I guess Dave, our CMED Supervisor, needs to work on being more human. LOL His defense was worth sharing. He only had 9 months of programming before he was launched, and he has been winging it ever since!

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Westminster Fire (above), **Westborough Fire & Police** (right) and **Dudley Fire & Police** (below) all had field deliveries early this summer.

Bridging Generational Gaps in Your ESO Podcast

With 5 generations in the workforce today, learning how to effectively engage with different age groups is more important than ever, especially in emergency service organizations (ESOs).

For this episode, VFIS Emergency Services Specialists Blair Tyndall and Megan Carr, and former VFIS Education Specialist and current Battalion Chief at York Area United Fire and Rescue, Jake Hoover, join Chris Rodgers to discuss:

- Challenges of having multiple generations in ESOs
- Effective communication strategies
- Benefits of voluntary mentor programs

Search 100+ Critical Conversations for First Responders

Listen Now

There Must Be Something in the Water!

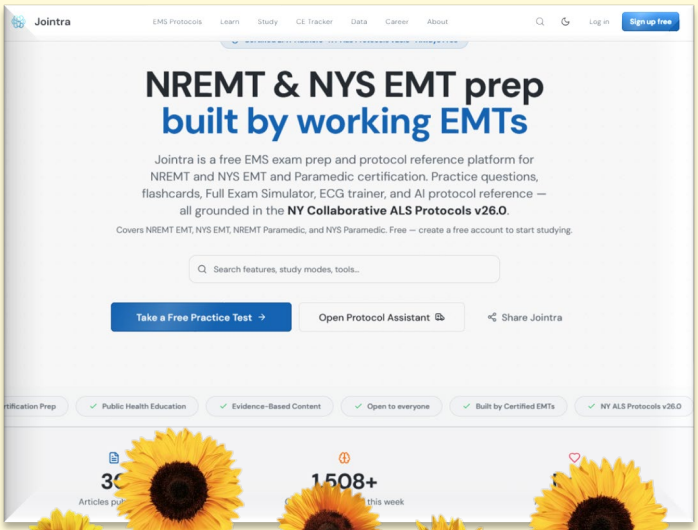
It seems there has been a drastic increase in the number of EMS field deliveries. We can barely keep the stork pins in stock! We have 2 more stork pinnings pending too!

Free EMT / Paramedic Exam Prep: Jointra

Jointra is a free study platform built for NREMT EMT and Paramedic students, created by a Rockland County EMT and EMS Lab Instructor. It offers question banks, an ECG trainer, drug quizzes, and scenario-based practice, all aligned to the national standard. AEMT content is currently in development and expected soon. No cost, no signup barriers, just study tools built by someone in the field.

The Protocol References are for New York, but the NREMT test materials are a great resource. We checked it out and it is easy to access and free, like advertised.

Visit: https://jointra.org/



CPR & ACLS Instructor Courses in August

We had some last-minute additions to our instructor course offerings. If you have contemplated becoming an instructor, let Chris know you are interested ASAP. There are only a few spots available in each. This is a great credential to have on your resume if you teach any EMS classes. The in-person dates are (pre-course work required too): 8/19-ACLS, 8/20-BLS, 8/21 HS.

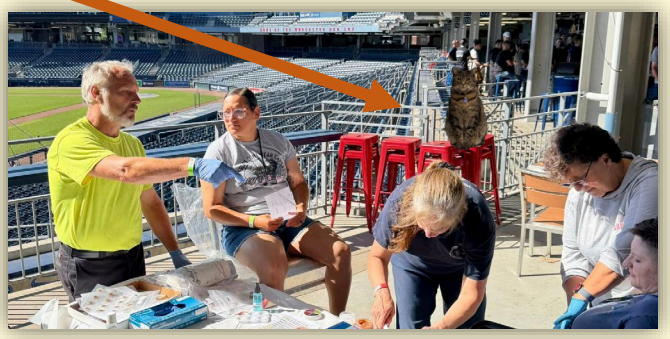
Take Care of Your Back

Sooner or later, EMS work is going to be a pain in the back side. Tracked stairchairs, power cots and loading systems are a huge help but you still need a strong back in this work. Simple stretches and exercises can make a big difference in preventing injury. Check these out and give them a try!

CMED Call of the Month

This month's call really makes you ask, what were they thinking?!? "78-year-old female patient, unresponsive. Treated by the SNF for low blood sugar, then packed in ice." The nurse must have read "store in a cool place" on the d50 and now poor Mee-maw is a popsicle.

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 was a busy guy! He hijacked the Groton ambulance, we assume to catch a ride the Operation FASTBALL since he was all over the WooSox Stadium. Several people found him, but none found him in all 4 locations. Our first response came from **Derek Luftus** from **Reading Fire** so he will have some goodies in the mail soon.

Join the fun! If you spot Petey 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.