

Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

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The Maryland Poison Center Advises: Don't Google...Just Call!

The following article is reprinted from the Poison Prevention Press, with permission from the author.

We have become a technology-based society. If we want to go someplace, we use a GPS device instead of finding a map. Our music is played on devices that fit in the palm of your hand. If we need to look up a definition of a word, we reach for the computer or tablet or smart phone and use dictionary.com instead of reaching for the dictionary. If we have a question about anything, our first thought is to "Google It."

And there is a definite place for this technology. Usually, when you use search engines to find something on the internet, it takes some time to find the exact information you are looking for. You get many choices that satisfy your search. You have to sort through the choices to find the exact answer you are looking for from a source you can trust. How many key strokes do you think it takes to find an answer to your question? Do you think you can get immediate, accurate information with ten key strokes?

Calling the poison center when someone has used a medicine or household product in the wrong way or in the wrong amount will get

you accurate information in seconds with just ten keystrokes: 800-222-1222. Once you dial this number, you are connected right away to a poison expert—a pharmacist or nurse with special training—who will give you the information you need to help the person. You will

be given information specific to your situation. The information found on the internet is general and applies to some situations but maybe not yours. Some people call the poison center after they tried to find the answers on the

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National Poison Prevention Week March 17-23, 2013

Courtesy of the Maryland Poison Center

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy designated the third week in March as National Poison Prevention Week to raise awareness of the dangers of unintentional poisonings. After all these years, is Poison Prevention Week still needed? Most definitely! According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, poisonings are the second leading cause of unintentional injury death. How can EMS providers promote poison safety?

Educational materials such as pamphlets, posters, and telephone stickers and magnets are available from the Maryland Poison Center for school visits, health fairs, open houses, and safety days. Distribute them during National Poison Prevention Week and throughout the year—make every week a poison prevention week! Promote calling the poison center to ensure your patients will get the help they need right away if a poisoning occurs, and save them time and money by avoiding unnecessary use of EMS and emergency department services. Encouraging the public to call the poison center also provides you peace of mind that they are speaking to specialists in managing poisonings or overdoses, allowing you to focus on patients who need EMS.

Share these tips to help keep the children, teens, adults, and seniors in your community safe from poisonings:

- Post the poison center phone number (800-222-1222) in a visible location and/or program it into home and mobile phones
- Keep poisons and medicines in locked cabinets, stored away from small children
- Store all household products in their original containers and never in food containers
- Follow directions on medicine exactly
- Read household product labels every time the product is used and follow directions and safety warnings
- Install carbon monoxide alarms in the home

Starting in mid-March, visit our new website at www.mdpoison.com to order or download poison prevention materials, our newsletters for health professionals (*ToxTidbits*) and the public (*Poison Prevention Press*), and to learn more about the Maryland Poison Center. Additional poison prevention materials and information can be found at www.poisonhelp.hrsa.gov.

**POISON
Help**
1-800-222-1222



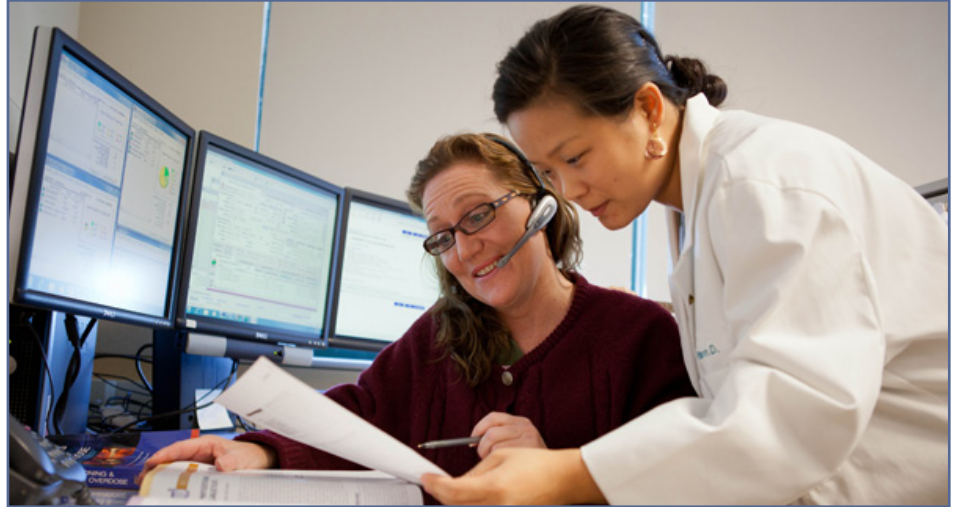
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internet. The information they find is scary or confusing. Sometimes it is not correct. Some of the information is outdated. Some of the information might come from blog posts from random people who have little or no knowledge of the topic.

The best advice to follow if you think a poisoning or overdose has happened—Don't Google...Just Call!

◆ **Angel Bivens, R.Ph., MBA, CSPI**
Public Education Coordinator
Maryland Poison Center



Poison Specialists are on hand at the Maryland Poison Center to assist callers, 24 hours a day, in immediate need for advice or treatment. Photo courtesy of the Maryland Poison Center

Trauma Care 2013 is Almost Here!

What:

An opportunity for EMS providers, emergency medicine, and trauma personnel to hear discussions on treating penetrating trauma, geriatric trauma, pediatric traumatic brain injury, as well as the culture of caring as it pertains to trauma. CEUs will be offered.

Who:

EMS Providers, nurses, physicians and physician assistants, and allied health professionals are welcome to attend.

When & Where:

April 18, 2013 at the Baltimore Hilton, 401 West Pratt Street, Maryland

The keynote speaker for this event is Gregory J. Jurkovich, MD, FACS. For registration fees and more information, click <http://bit.ly/TraumaCare2013>.

National Public Safety Telecommunications Week

The week of April 14 – 20, 2013, has been designated by Congress as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, a time for the public to thank emergency medical dispatchers (EMDs) and other public safety telecommunications professionals who often work tirelessly, and behind the scenes, to help all of us in emergencies. If your local jurisdiction is hosting a tour or celebration in honor of these dedicated professionals, please let us know by emailing info@miemss.org.

Here at MIEMSS, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of Maryland's public safety telecommunications professionals, including those radio and telephone technicians that keep MIEMSS up and running, 24 hours and day, to keep Maryland safe.

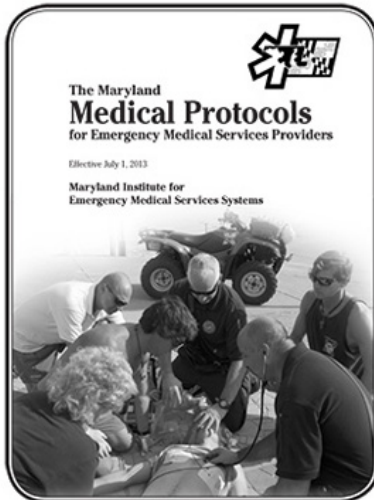


Lt. Dale Smith is an EMD in Talbot County, Maryland. During National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, and all year long, take a moment to thank public safety telecommunications personnel for their dedication and hard work in keeping us safe.

2013 Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers

Providers Must Complete Protocol Update by July 1, 2013

The *Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers 2013* are now available online. You can download and print the full version or just the updated pages—your choice! Visit www.bit.ly/2013ProviderProtocols to view or download these documents. A printed version of the entire



document will also be available soon through the Office of Licensure and Certification. A copy of the hand-held abridged version, the Pocket Protocols, will be distributed to all Maryland EMS providers at no charge. Additional copies may be purchased through the Office of Licensure and Certification.

The 2013 protocol update became available on MIEMSS' Online Training Center (OTC) on March 1, 2013. MIEMSS has listened to your feedback as we have worked to grow our online learning capabilities. Based on your

input, this edition of *Meet the Protocols* follows a brand-new, user-friendly format that gives you control over how and when to learn these important materials.

There are four versions of the protocol update available online this year:

- The ALS edition pertains to the changes affecting Paramedics and CRTs
- The EMT version covers EMT-level changes
- An EMR version introduces EMRs to the protocol changes that affect them


- A Hospital Base Station edition brings hospital personnel up-to-date in interacting effectively with EMS personnel who are seeking medical consultation based on the new protocols

The courses are divided up into small sections followed by a short quiz. Your passing grade is based on the cumulative score of all quizzes combined.

Remember: As a Maryland EMS Provider, you **MUST** complete the 2013 Protocol Update matching your level of licensure **before July 1, 2013**.

If you have any questions about the content of the 2013 *Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers*, contact the Office of the State EMS Medical Director at 1-800-762-7157. If you have questions related to the technical aspects of the Online Training Center, send an email to OnlineTraining@miemss.org or call the MIEMSS Office of Licensure and Certification at 410-706-3666 or 1-800-762-7157.

2013 ALS Protocol Update



*The New
"Meet the
Protocols"*

*Joe Cvach
Host*

Start Course



EMS Care 2013 – Ridin' the Wave

EMS Care, the Statewide EMS Conference is coming back to Ocean City, Maryland! The Conference will be held at the Clarion Fontainebleau Resort Hotel.

Preconferences this year will take place May 1–3 and include Critical Incident Stress Management for Providers, EMT 12-Hour Skills Refresher, Tactical Combat Casualty Care Course, ACLS for the Experienced Provider, S.T.A.B.L.E. Workshop, Moulage, and much more! The main conference will follow, taking place May 4–5. EMS "Edutainer" Bob Page, this year's keynote speaker, will present *How You Doin'?: The Art of History Taking* after Dr. Robert Bass, MIEMSS Executive Director, delivers the *EMS State of the State* address on Saturday, May 4. Tons of courses will be offered over the weekend, including nationally recognized speaker Jason Dush on *Dealing with Patients in Police Custody* and Dr. Richard Alcorta, State EMS Medical Director, on handling the difficult task of death notifications.

Please go to the MIEMSS website for detailed information and registration forms (<http://bit.ly/EMSCare2013>) or contact EMSCare2013@miemss.org. Online registration is available by clicking <https://eereg3.wufoo.com/forms/ems-care-2013-conference-registration-form/>.

This year, EMS Care in Ocean City is taking place on the same weekend as Springfest 2013! So bring the entire family for a long weekend of fun and excitement.

In Talbot County, CPR Marathon Teaches Over 300 Held in Honor of American Heart Month (February)

February was American Heart Month and Talbot County officials urged residents to take advantage of free CPR and AED training on February 27, 2013. Over 300 students participated during the 12-hour "marathon," earning their American Heart Association CPR cards. Images from left to right: members of the Talbot County Department of Emergency Services who assisted that day; students learn and practice their new skills at the Talbot County Community Center; one of the graduating classes proudly shows off their new CPR cards.



MIEMSS Welcomes Visitors from Singapore



During a recent visit to MIEMSS, Dr. LTC Ng Yih Yng, the Chief Medical Officer of the Medical Department of the Singapore Civil Defence Force and Kenneth Foong, Paramedic, had an opportunity to meet with MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Robert Bass, and tour SYSCOM/EMRC and the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. They also met with members of the Baltimore City Fire Department and learned about their EMS operations.



Reminder: Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar is April 5-6!

If you haven't already registered, there is still time. For information and registration, click <http://bit.ly/Miltenberger2013>. This year's conference, April 5-6, 2013, is taking place at Wisp Resort in McHenry, Maryland. This year, the first annual Region I *Night for the Stars Stellar Service Awards* will be presented on Friday night. Register before March 28, 2013 to receive a Miltenberger t-shirt!

MIEMSS, *Maryland EMS News*
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Lt. Governor Anthony Brown

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