

Dane County EMS Newsletter

May, 2021



Dane County EMS Protocol Update 2022



How do EMS providers submit input?

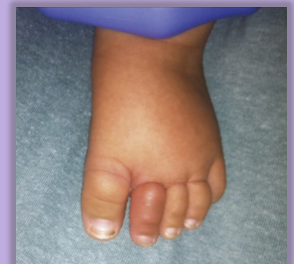
1. Google Form <https://forms.gle/2c4c7xxLYsrDmc7J9>
2. Attend one of the Town Hall Meetings
 - Wednesday May 26th 1630-1730 or
 - Wednesday June 2nd 1900-2000 @ Fitchburg Fire Lacy Rd or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5859857125>

How do I join the workgroup?

Share your interest with your Agency Chief/Director and watch for meeting dates to be posted in our newsletter!

Viz Quiz

- Called for a 4 month old male with fussiness
- Mom states that he just won't stop crying for the past few hours.
- On your assessment, you see a healthy-appearing 4 month old child who is fussy, but seems to be able to be consoled by mom. Afebrile, vitals all within normal limits. You note that he doesn't like it when you touch his left foot and his toe appears swollen. You do not see any other swollen joints or evidence of trauma on exam.
- What is the most likely etiology of your findings?

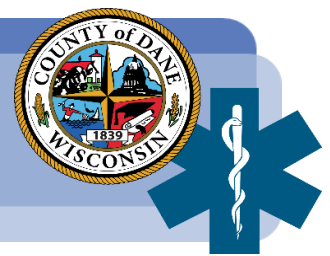


Submit your response at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KL85XXX> for a chance to win a prize. Congratulations to Frank from Sun Prairie EMS for winning the April Viz Quiz!

April Follow-Up

- Concerning blunt trauma to the face or head, there are multiple injuries one should consider. Depending on the mechanism of injury, age, and use of blood thinners some injuries are more likely than others.
- Some more serious injuries to consider in someone that has visual changes with blunt trauma would be intracranial pathology like a brain bleed. In a focused mechanism of injury to the midface or eye some things to consider could also be a traumatic iritis. (textbook signs and symptoms would include light sensitivity, headache, loss of vision or change of vision in the affected eye). Something else to consider could be a retrobulbar hematoma a.k.a. a bleed behind the eyeball that's compressing the optic nerve (textbook signs and symptoms would include vision loss, proptosis (aka the eye bulging forward), inability to move the eyeball of the affected eye).
- In this specific patient, the concern is for an orbital floor fracture. This is also called a blowout fracture. A known complication from this type of fracture is the entrapment of the inferior rectus muscle in the maxillary sinus (the muscle that allows the eye to look up).





Case Study

Case: You're called for a baby who had a first-time seizure. When you arrive, the baby is sitting up in mom's lap, readily drinking his bottle, but you note that the liquid within appears watery and thinner than formula should.

Hyponatremia-induced seizures in infants secondary to water intoxication:

- For infants < 6 months and normal exam -> leading cause of new onset, non-febrile seizure
- Hyponatremia is an electrolyte imbalance caused by low blood sodium levels
- Formula induced hyponatremia/water intoxication can be difficult to recognize
- Breast milk and/or formula provide all the nutrients an infant needs
- Formula is designed to be mixed at a proper ratio and dilution can occur for multiple reasons

Sources: Houck J, Ganti L, Vera AE. A Case of Hyponatremia-induced Seizures in an Infant Secondary to Water Intoxication from the Use of Almond Milk. *Cure us*. 2019;11(10):e5899. Published 2019 Oct 13.

Wright, D., MS, PA-C, NRP. (2020, May 30). Pediatric seizures: The nutritional aspect. Retrieved March 16, 2021, from <https://www.emsworld.com/article/1224400/pediatric-seizures-nutritional-aspect>

Simulation Training

What would you do if you were confronted with a child having a seizure? What about a person having a STEMI? How about a severe asthma attack? If you would like the chance to practice these types of calls and more, please contact us! In support of Dane County Medical Direction, SSM Health is excited to offer the opportunity to bring their high-fidelity simulation family to your department. If you are interested in taking advantage of this unique training opportunity, speak with your training officer or contact Dustin Weber by email at dustin.weber@ssmhealth to discuss how the Dane County Medical Direction team and SSM Health can support your training goals with high-fidelity simulation.



Since 2020, 25% of pediatric seizures in Dane County have been for patients age 2 and under.

- 1 in 5 seizure patients under the age of 2 received a benzodiazepine from EMS.



- Just over 65% of seizure patients under the age of 2 were suspected febrile seizures, while the remaining 35% were due to a suspected neurological etiology.

HPCPR – Case Vignette of the Month

You are paged to a 19 D-3, heart problems, changing color. CAD notes state patient is a 91F complaining of chest pain and ashen in color. Upon arrival you are greeted by assisted living staff and handed a bunch of paperwork as they sport you to the patient's room. You observe an elderly female sitting in a chair in obvious distress. She is ashen in color and minimally responsive. She has labored breathing. As you place the patient on the monitor your partner states they have found a signed DNR form, but you do not notice a bracelet on the patient. The patient suddenly becomes unresponsive, pulseless, and you observe this rhythm on the monitor:



What are your priorities in caring for this patient? Is defibrillation appropriate? What resources do you have to assist in decision making?

Upcoming Events and Training

5/20, 6:30pm SSM Health Monthly Training
"Don't Skip a Beat: Management of Implantable Pacemakers and Defibrillators in the Field"

Register at bit.ly/ssmemstraining

5/22, 8:00am DCEMS EVOC Driving Range
Register through your Director or Training Director

6/1, 4:30-8pm UW Health Emergency Trauma Symposium

Register at uwhealth.org/emssymposium

6/4, 8-11:30am UW Health Emergency Trauma Symposium

Register at uwhealth.org/emssymposium

If issues are encountered with hyperlinks, copy and paste URL into browser.