



EMS West Annual Report

EMS WEST results from the merger of EMMCO East, Inc. and Emergency Medical Service Institute. EMS West serves a 16-county EMS region in western Pennsylvania stretching from West Virginia to New York state. The data reported here is aggregate data from the former EMMCO East, Inc. and Emergency Medical Service Institute service areas for 2016-2017.

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Medical Directors 2017-18

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Financial Statement of Income and Expenses:

During Fiscal year 2016-2017, EMS West received a total budgeted amount of \$2,134,445 from the Department of Health and spent the entire amount to support the EMS system in sixteen counties. An independent financial audit will be released in the fall of 2017.

Regional Activities/Organizational Management

EMMCO East and EMSI continued to strengthen cooperative efforts and finalized the merger of the two regional councils. On July 1, 2017, the merger became official and the merged entity will operate as EMS West and will serve 16 counties in western Pennsylvania.

EMS Update 2017 was held March 23, 24 and 25. There were 82 sessions and the conference provided 5,942.5 continuing education credits (5142.5 clinical/core and 800 other). 876 registered participants attended. 45 exhibitors participated (over 12,000 square feet of exhibition space). Within Pennsylvania, 41 counties were represented. 36% of the attendees were female. 57% of attendees were certified at the BLS level. 78% of the attendees registered for two days or more. 94% of the attendees were satisfied/very satisfied at the conclusion of the conference.

John Bower, Gary Crider, Kate Jones Lambert, and Mark Lovey received EMS Recognition Awards at the 2016 Annual Meeting held November 3 at the Doubletree by Hilton Pittsburgh/Cranberry.

EMS West has continued to participate in meetings with Representative Martin Causer, Representative Matt Gabler, County and Municipal leadership, EMS agency leadership and the public to discuss issues facing the EMS industry. Topics of these meetings focused on reimbursement, recruitment and educational expenses as well as legislative efforts that are underway.

EMS West continued its efforts to aid candidates interested in obtaining EMS provider certifications by using provider and other funds within the budget to provide tuition assistance to combat the EMS provider shortage as reported by EMS agencies in the region. \$14,350 were expended to assist 48 students.

EMS West staff participated in EMS Night at PNC Park, EMS Week activities, and other agency and education institute events.

EMS West continues to support EMS recognition activities by attending the Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania's Annual EMS Memorial Service at the Capitol and Stars of Life Event and supporting the EMS Memorial Bike Ride.

EMS West continues to support Change the Culture, a regional workgroup dedicated to identify resources and EMS personnel in relation to PTSD, suicide, well-being, fatigue, and depression.

EMS West staff has provided "Stop the Bleed" to multiple law enforcement agencies.

	<i>Certified This Year</i>	<i>Total In Region</i>
EMR	46	755
EMT	711	6,946
Advanced EMT	18	32
Paramedic	88	2,076
PHRN	23	278
PHPE	1	6
PHP	18	109
EMS-Instructor	68	386
EMSVO*	1	60

(note: EMS instructors are dual certified) (*EMSVO denotes sole certification)

9,834 certified practitioners in the region; 7,701 BLS providers; 2,133 ALS providers

1,470 photos and signatures were taken and uploaded to certification cards.

131 EMS providers requested re-registration packets; 21 providers achieved re-certification.

55 letters of Good Standing/Verification of EMS Status were prepared for providers seeking certification in other states.

217 reciprocity packets were requested; 74 providers became PA certified.

There were over 634,000 Patient Care Reports generated in the region.

Continuing Education

2,392 Con-Ed courses were registered in the region with 42,178 students enrolled.

861 Con-Ed by endorsement applications were processed.

56 continuing education sponsors were re-accredited. There are 205 sponsors in the EMS West region.

EMS West approved 17 new continuing education course applications.

EMS West conducted 13 continuing education sponsor workshops.

403 patient actors/EMT assistants participated in NREMT psychomotor exams and received continuing education endorsement for their participation.

EMS West staff participated in the DOH EMSRS beta testing project.

Medical Direction

215 Medical Command Physicians were registered.

894 ALS providers were credentialed (paperwork submitted to office).

5 Medical Command facilities were renewed

There are 39 medical command facilities in the region.

There are 23 PA DOH accredited primary stroke centers in the region.

The regional Medical Advisory Committees met seven times.

Systems Operations

	Initial		Renewal			New
	Service	Vehicle	Service	Vehicles		Vehicles
New	3	9				9
Agencies			84	301		
QRS	9	16	44	102		16

121 licensure applications were processed.

302 total EMS agencies in the region, 114 QRS agencies, 10 swiftwater, and 10 VRSR

Total number of personnel (QRS, vehicle rescue, swiftwater) is 1,857 with 260 vehicles recognized.

1,105 total licensed vehicles with 722 of them able to transport patient.

EMS West staff conducted 16 unannounced agency inspections.

- 2 new vehicle rescue agencies
- 2 new water rescue agencies
- 2 water rescue agencies renewed
- 2 vehicle rescue agencies renewed

Busiest time of the day for EMS calls is between 1400 and 1500 with 6.8%. That is followed by 1300-1400, 1000-1100, 1200-1300 and 1500-1600.

Busiest day of the week is Friday, followed by Wednesday.

74% of calls are treated, transported by EMS. Nearly 11.3 percent of the patients seen (according to PCRs) require no treatment. 4.9% of the patients (again, according to PCRs) refuse care.

13% of patient destination basis is by patient choice. 17% of the time it is based on closest facility and 7.9% of patients are transported to a destination based on patient's physician choice. 5.4% of the patients are transported to specialty resource centers.

Staff participated in 0 PCR vendor roll-outs; 1 PCR bridge orientation program.

22 EMS agencies received 2017 American Heart Association Mission: Lifeline EMS Performance Achievement Awards (10 Gold, 6 Silver, and 6 Bronze).

Education

13 EMR programs ran in the region

57 EMT programs ran in the region

Allegheny	27	Armstrong	0	Beaver	1	Butler	2
Cameron	0	Clearfield	1	Elk	1	Fayette	4
Greene	1	Indiana	4	Jefferson	2	Lawrence	2
McKean	0	Potter	0	Washington	3	Westmoreland	9

3 AEMT programs ran in the region

5 Paramedic programs ran in the region

7 EMS-Instructor classes were held

27 Basic Vehicle Rescue classes and 4 Special Vehicle Rescue classes were held

EMS West held 1 CPR class at the Pittsburgh office for healthcare providers.

72 PHRN applications were received; 15 successful completions of the PHRN – BLS psychomotor exam; 14 successful completions of the PHRN – ALS cognitive exam. 10 paramedics were upgraded to PHRN.

EMS West conducted 50 BLS psychomotor examinations (1,167 candidates tested) and 8 ALS psychomotor examinations (151 candidates tested).

EMS West conducted 82 first class visits.

4 educational institute were re-accredited this year.

12 PHRN Prepare courses and 7 EMT Prepare courses were conducted.

84 EMS Virtual Drive classes were conducted at multiple EMS agencies in the region with 643 providers participating.

3 National Registry Evaluator training classes were conducted

Top ten continuing education classes offered:

1. HazMat Ops First Responder Refresher
2. AHA - ACLS
3. EMSI Virtual Drive
4. EMSI Regional Skills Verification Module 1
5. PALS Update with Optional Lesson
6. EVDT Program
7. AHA 2015 ACLS Update
8. AHA-ACLS Provider Course
9. Naloxone Administration for the EMR
10. Basic Vehicle Rescue Awareness

Continuous Quality Improvement

27 complaints received at EMS West and investigated.

230 Fatal Accident Reports were researched.

33 accidents involving ambulances/EMS personnel were reported.

The regional QI committee met 3 times.

WMD/Emergency Preparedness Activities

32 Task Force Meetings were held; 3 Table Top Exercises were conducted; and 2 Full Scale Field Exercises were completed.

One of the mandated responsibilities of the Regional EMS Councils is to assist Federal, State or local agencies, upon request, in the provision of onsite mitigation, technical assistance, and situation assessment, coordination of functions or post-incident evaluations in the event of a potential or actual disaster, mass casualty situation or other substantial threat to public health. As part of its fulfillment of these tasks, our personnel participated in the following meetings, exercises, events and real time disasters:

- Active Shooter drill, Clearfield Hospital
- Emergency Preparedness Conference, Blair County, CCP Exercise
- Strike Team Exercise, The First 72
- Strike Team Exercise, White Lighting
- Dawn of the First Day, 72 Hours Remain – Strike Team Deployment Exercise
- Tactical EMS Class.
- Participated in the Regional Highly Infectious Disease Tabletop Exercise – Penn Highlands Clearfield.
- Stop the Bleed exercise/class, Cameron County
- Stop the Bleed exercise/class, Jefferson County
- Stop the Bleed exercise/class, Elk County
- Groundhog Day, Punxsutawney

- Equipment training/CCP exercise, Punxsutawney Hospital
- Tactical Medic training/exercise, St Mary's Pa.
- Strike Team/Task Force Leader training/exercise, Pittsburgh

EMS West staff participated on Medical Subcommittee of the Joint Readiness Center, Region 13 EMS Committee, MMRS Health & Medical subcommittee and Steering Committee, Allegheny County Local Emergency Planning Committee, Northwest Central PA Emergency Response Group, Northcentral Task Force, Healthcare Coalition, and Allegheny County Citizen Corp Council.