



Wyoming County Office of Emergency Services 151 N. Main Street, Warsaw, NY 14569

Brian Meyers, Director of Fire & Emergency Management

bmeyers@wyomingco.net

William Streicher, Fire Coordinator

bstreicher@wyomingco.net

Phone: (585)786-8867

Fax: (585)786-8961

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Wyoming County Fire & EMS providers,

As you know the treatment of cardiac arrest in the pre-hospital setting had previously changed from load and go to on scene treatment of high quality CPR while minimizing interruptions. Studies show that the patients have a greater chance of survival when high quality CPR is performed at the location of the arrest rather than through rapid transport.

This shift in treatment results in several hurdles for not only EMS but patient family members as well. Families are often confused as to why EMS is not taking their loved one to the Emergency Department, what happens after EMS terminates resuscitation efforts, what the family does next and who they can call for information or help.

To help EMS face these challenges, the Emergency Services office, in conjunction with the Wyoming County Sheriff's Office and county Coroners, are providing the following informational resources to help aid EMS and families during these difficult times:

1. **Treatment of Cardiac Arrest by EMS Pamphlet** – A trifold pamphlet that contains discussion points EMS providers can reference when speaking to families about the treatment of their loved ones in cardiac arrest. In addition, the pamphlet can be left with the family to provide them with information about what to do next and who to contact if they need assistance. These pamphlets can also be distributed by the EMS agency throughout their community. It is best to print these pamphlets in color, and double sided.
2. **EMS Delivery of Death Notification** - This document contains suggestions and guidance on how to interact with bystanders and family after resuscitation has been terminated with helpful phrases, actions to take, and a model script that can be used by EMS to tell the family that the patient has died.
3. **EMS Considerations at Death Scenes** - This document provides considerations for Fire & EMS providers who respond to scenes where a death occurred. These considerations help preserve the integrity of the scene to help facilitate the death investigation.

We hope that these resources help to better prepare providers that encounter a prehospital cardiac arrest or death. If you have any questions or comments please contact the Emergency Services Office.

Sincerely,

Brian Meyers
Director of Fire and Emergency Management

Bill Streicher
Fire / EMS Coordinator

Dr. Geoff Schweikhard
EMS Medical Director