

# EMS State of the Science Gathering of Eagles XI February 21, 2009

## **How Electronic Patient Care Records Can Help Improve Quality?**

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# Electronic Patient Care Record

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- It won't make your paramedics nicer.
- It won't make them look better.
- It won't wash your dishes or do your laundry.
- It might improve the medics documentation.
- It will give the Medical Director incredible insight into patient care and documentation.

# Electronic Patient Care Record

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- Implementation
  - So that your medics don't hate you
- Ongoing Support
  - So that your IT division doesn't hate you
- Analytic support
  - So that your regulatory agency doesn't hate you

# Electronic Patient Care Record

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- Implementation
- Think through all of the practical issues
  - Docking stations
  - Workflow Issues
  - Type of hardened laptops
  - Medic will find some way to break it
  - Appropriate policy- medics will try to avoid it

# Electronic Patient Care Record

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## ■ Ongoing Support

- IT backup
- Dedicated Paramedic with admin rights
  - Design Changes
  - Collate and Respond to Suggestions

# Electronic Patient Care Record

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## ■ Analytic Support

- Data does not equal wisdom
- Need someone who can generate reports
- Canned reports are not adequate
- PI Committee

# Electronic Patient Care Record

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## ■ QI Successes

- Endotracheal Intubation
- Combitube
- Pleural Decompression
- Cardioversion
- Defibrillation
- CPAP
- Transcutaneous Pacing

# Electronic Patient Care Record

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- End Tidal CO<sub>2</sub> Waveform Monitoring

- Initial Compliance

- ET                    50%

- Combitube       5%

- After 2 years of QI

- ET                    85-90%

- Combitube       85%

# Electronic Patient Care Record

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- Other Successes
  - Aspirin in Chest Pain
  - 12 Lead in Chest Pain
  - CPAP compliance with protocol
  - Signature Compliance