

Emergency Medical Services

Winter 2021

EMS Medical Director Spotlight

*Eric Cortez, MD, FACEP, FAEMS
OhioHealth System EMS Medical Director*

We have many emergency medical services physicians working within OhioHealth EMS. While many of you interact with our physicians when handing patients off in the emergency department or while attending continuing-education events, it can be difficult to learn about a doctor's interests and medical experience. So, we wanted to provide an opportunity to learn more about them.

MEET DR. KUBE

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Holly Herron, DNP, RN, CNP

OhioHealth EMS is hopeful that the preparation for and return to face-to-face conferences can begin this winter. As we proceed with caution, we will continue to provide virtual webcasting as an option along with our face-to-face, on-site events. This will allow more students to attend our conferences. The recorded conference sessions will also be in our online library for future viewing and continuing education training credit.

We enjoyed the annual Trauma Conference and the Dublin Methodist Hospital 2021 Regional Update Conference virtually during the fall. Both conferences will be placed on our website for online continuing education credit for those who were unable to attend in person. To view the trauma conference, Dublin Methodist conference or any of our other continuing education topics, go to OhioHealthEMS.com/OnlineLearning. We hope you find these lectures beneficial.

EDUCATION UPDATE

*Barbara Dean, BSN, RN
Paramedic Program Manager*

COVID-19 has presented many challenges to EMS providers obtaining continuing education. Please visit OhioHealthEMS.com or use the QR code below for a list of our online education opportunities. If you would like to schedule training on site or via Webex, please send a request to EMS@OhioHealth.com.



CASE STUDY

Mobile Stroke's busiest day

*Corbin Willis, PA
Nathan Jennings, Manager*

A 65-year-old man was walking his dog on October 2, 2021. Around 14:30, he had sudden onset of extreme vertigo and dizziness. The patient was so unsteady that he had to sit down on the curb and yell to his neighbors for help. He was discovered by EMS and Mobile Stroke Treatment Unit (MTSU) personnel with classical basilar occlusion syndrome, including slurred speech, bilateral arm ataxia (impaired finger-to-nose test), decreased level of consciousness, and truncal ataxia (difficulty keeping the body stable). He was deemed an excellent candidate for treatment with on-scene alteplase (IV tPA). The patient was then rapidly transported to OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital as a stroke alert, where his basilar artery occlusion was discovered. He was taken for thrombectomy and has since made an excellent recovery. As of November 24, his only deficit is slight double vision. With four complex cases cared for in one day, this was among the Mobile Stroke team's busiest day since its conception.

FAST FACTS

*Michelle Hill, MS, RN,
AGCNS-BC*

Until recently, alteplase has been the gold standard for acute stroke treatment. In 2018, the EXTEND-IA TNK trial was published comparing alteplase and tenecteplase in large vessel occlusion stroke treatment. EXTEND-IA TNK showed that tenecteplase is a safer and easier treatment with more effective and convenient administration than alteplase.

Learn more check out these studies from the [Journal of the American Medical Association](#) and the [International Journal of Stroke](#).

IN THE FIELD

Emergency medicine residents experience prehospital challenges at extrication day

John Casey, DO, MA, FACOEP

At a recent training session, the next generation of emergency physicians experienced a taste of some of the challenges faced by emergency medical services professionals. OhioHealth Doctors Hospital Emergency Medicine Residency, in conjunction with Prairie Township Fire and EMS, conducted its annual extrication day in September. This event has been held for several years and provides a great experience for the emergency physicians training for independent practice. Stations include prehospital management of agitated patients, vehicle extrication, drag and rescue techniques, starting IVs and performing assessments in a moving EMS unit, and challenging airway management stations. This opens the eyes of many physicians to the "why" behind bringing an EMS patient in for an evaluation and helps build a positive, respectful relationship with the unique challenges of practicing in a prehospital environment. This is also a great opportunity for our EMS colleagues to interact with physicians and gain insight into their thought process, as well as meet the interns (first year physicians in training) who they will be working with over the years. As a bonus, the OhioHealth Doctors Hospital EMS Fellowship physicians get the opportunity to exhibit high-level EMS engagement with other physicians and EMS providers. This is an essential skill because, with their specialized EMS training, they often serve as a liaison between the EMS community and the emergency department.

SERVICE LINE FEATURE

Freestanding emergency departments

Ryan Squier, MD, FACEP

As an entity, medicine continues to evolve as our communities' health evolves. We constantly develop new treatment regimens, devices, therapies and settings to provide patients with the right care at the right time. Naturally, Emergency Medicine has seen this evolution. Care for patients has evolved from single rooms with curtains to multiroom departments, and most recently into a freestanding emergency department — an emergency department that exists as an independent structure from the hospital.

Emergency departments consistently see themselves functioning as a team. A key member of that team are our prehospital colleagues. As freestanding EDs continue to evolve, it is essential to understand the benefits that exist within these environments, while also appreciating their differences to ensure patients receive the ideal environment for definitive treatment. With increased density of freestanding emergency departments within our communities, I would strongly encourage your awareness of how they can complement your care delivery.

To learn more about the learning opportunities available through OhioHealth EMS, visit OhioHealthEMS.com/OnlineLearning.

Please visit OhioHealthEMS.com for more information about our EMS programs.