### Regional Training Sessions

Service Managers/Directors or Primary Contact, please compete the Survey: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F9NF5RG](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F9NF5RG) to register to attend one of the Regional Training Sessions below, or contact Marty Link to Register: Marty.Link@state.sd.us

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 16, 2017</td>
<td>5:30pm – 10pm</td>
<td><strong>Sioux Falls</strong> – Kenny Anderson Community Center, 3701 East 3rd Street, Sioux Falls. (Anne Sullivan School)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 17, 2017</td>
<td>5:30pm – 10pm</td>
<td><strong>Watertown</strong> – Codington Co. Extension Building, 1910 West Kemp Ave, Watertown</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 18, 2017</td>
<td>5:30pm – 10pm</td>
<td><strong>Aberdeen</strong> – Police Dept. Public Safety Building, 114 2nd Ave SE., Aberdeen</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 20, 2017</td>
<td>5:30pm – 10pm (Mnt.)</td>
<td><strong>Rapid City</strong> – Pennington Co. Emergency Management , 130 Kansas City Street # 130 A, Rapid City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 21, 2017</td>
<td>5:30pm – 10pm (Mnt.)</td>
<td><strong>Spearfish</strong> – Spearfish Ambulance Service, 715 East Colorado Blvd., Spearfish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 11, 2017</td>
<td>5:30pm – 10pm</td>
<td><strong>Mitchell</strong> – MTI Tech Center Theater, 1800 East Spruce Street, Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 12, 2017</td>
<td>5:30pm – 10pm</td>
<td><strong>Pierre</strong> – Red Rossa, 808 West Sioux Ave., Pierre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 13, 2017</td>
<td>5:30pm – 10pm</td>
<td><strong>Mobridge</strong> – Family Worship Center, 1708 West Grand Crossing, Mobridge</td>
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**ImageTrend ePCR Train-The-Trainer Sessions & Agency Training**

(Please bring a laptop, notebook or iPad)

Service Managers/Directors or Primary Contact, please complete the Survey: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TT59BCT](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TT59BCT) to register to attend one of ePCR Training Sessions below, or contact Marty Link to Register: Marty.Link@state.sd.us

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 10, 2017</td>
<td>1pm – 5pm</td>
<td><strong>Pierre</strong> <em>(This session is for the designated Super Trainers Only)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 10, 2017</td>
<td>6pm – 10pm</td>
<td><strong>Pierre</strong> - Red Rossa, 808 West Sioux Ave., Pierre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 11, 2017</td>
<td>1-5pm or 6-10pm</td>
<td><strong>Mitchell</strong> – MTI Tech Center Theater, 1800 East Spruce Street, Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12, 2017</td>
<td>1-5pm or 6-10pm</td>
<td><strong>Vermillion</strong> – Vermillion Fire EMS Department, 820 North Dakota St., Vermillion</td>
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**October 28th & 29th** at the SD EMS Association Conference in Spearfish (Holiday Inn). Canyon Room (Times to be announced at a later date).
July 31, 2017

To: South Dakota Ambulance Service Directors

From: Marty Link, Director of EMS and Trauma
       Assistant Administrator, Office of Rural Health

Re: Emergency Medical Responder Certification
   ImageTrend Electronic Patient Care Reporting System
   Naloxone Project for First Responders
   Fall Regional EMS Sessions
   Survey Monkey Invitation

The Office of Rural Health’s EMS Program is pleased to share with you a number of great initiatives that will be implemented over the next several months. Since the transition from the Department of Public Safety to the Department of Health, the EMS Program has enjoyed two successful years of legislative activity, along with many other project milestones. Last year, Senate Bill 27 repealed the hardship exemption and redefined personnel requirements for ambulance services. This year, the passage of Senate Bill 48 allowed for the certification of the Emergency Medical Responder.

**Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)**

EMR is defined in statute as, “any person certified by the Department of Health trained to provide simple, noninvasive care focused on lifesaving interventions for critical patients. The Emergency Medical Responder renders on site emergency care while awaiting additional emergency medical services response from an emergency medical technician or higher level personnel. An Emergency Medical Responder may not make decisions independently regarding the appropriate disposition of a patient.”

The passage of SB48 allowed for the creation of the EMR level and authority to promulgate Administrative Rules defining the certification, recertification, and reciprocity processes along with the scope of practice for the EMR. The Administrative Rules were officially approved mid-July and took effect July 27, 2017. Since SB27 redefined personnel requirements for ambulance services and SB48 allows for the EMR as a certification level in SD, ambulance directors can now utilize EMRs as part of an ambulance response. Please note an individual who has completed the “Driver” components or an EMR can only function on an ambulance with an EMT or higher level of provider.

The Administrative Rules defined procedural steps necessary for certification, recertification, and reciprocity of EMRs. Individuals wishing to become certified as an EMR in the State of South Dakota may visit the EMS Program’s website for the appropriate application and requirements.
ImageTrend Electronic Patient Care Reporting System

In 2009, the EMS Program began using a National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) compliant software vendor for electronic Patient Care Reporting (ePCR) for ambulance services. As NEMSIS has evolved over the years from one standard to the next, several positive changes have occurred. The current version allows for more customization of the data elements collected, more specificity of the data elements, and more data elements to potentially choose from.

NEMSIS standard has evolved so much that the current ePCR platform utilized by ambulance services across the state will need to be replaced to remain compliant with NEMSIS and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s efforts. To that end, the Office of Rural Health published an Request for Proposal, reviewed vendor proposals, and selected and signed a contract with ImageTrend, a leading ePCR software vendor located in Minnesota.

The Office of Rural Health is extremely happy with this new partnership and is actively engaged in implementation efforts. This implementation, however, will be expeditious.

Due to constraints with our current vendor (Intermedix), the new ePCR platform with ImageTrend has a go-live date of January 1, 2018. Once the transition occurs on January 1, 2018, the contract with Intermedix will expire, along with the platform and any access to ePCR reports you have on record through Webcur. Although this may seem somewhat innerving, it is common business practice to print off ePCR reports for billing purposes. Codified Law requires ePCR reports to be saved for up to four years; current industry practices suggest up to seven years.

The EMS Program would recommend visiting with your billing administrator to ensure they have secured agency ePCRs outside of WebCur or have printed copies for reference after January 1, 2018, should the need arrive. There are also a number of ways of extracting data from WebCur such as canned reports or exporting data directly to Excel. The EMS Program has already exported data dating back to 2009 that will be used for statistical purposes. This data, however, is de-identified and does not contain all of the information EMS providers input in routine medical records. Therefore, it is essential you ensure access to your medical records outside of the Intermedix platform prior to January 1, 2018.

As noted earlier, the implementation of ImageTrend is on a consolidated timetable. The EMS Program plans to provide training on the new platform during Regional EMS sessions later this fall and again at the EMS conference.

Naloxone Project for First Responders

The South Dakota Department of Social Services (DSS) recently received a grant award similar to many other states to combat what has been called a nationwide opioid epidemic. As part of South Dakota’s target response to this epidemic, the Department of Health (DOH) in collaboration with DSS has established training sessions to equip and educate first responders including hospital staff, Emergency Medical Services, and law enforcement; specifically, local Sheriff Offices, local Police Departments and Highway Patrol agencies statewide.
First Responder agencies are on the front lines of the opioid crisis and are challenged with the many dangers of opioids and the result of potent synthetic manufacturing thereof; some synthetics, 100 times more powerful require special handling for responder safety. During these training sessions, DOH will educate responders about the opioid crisis, the symptomatology of an opioid overdose, and general treatment and safety recommendations of a patient suffering a suspected opioid overdose. Furthermore, DOH will equip first responder agencies with Naloxone, a medication intended to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

DOH plans to conduct training sessions during the months of October, November, and December of 2017 in various communities across SD. The coordination of these efforts will be through the Office of Rural Health’s EMS Program. It is anticipated that over 500 first responders will be trained in the initial phase of this project by attending one of the training sessions. Participants will be asked to return to their respective agencies and provide an overview of the training to remaining staff. Handouts and online resources will be available to assist in this process.

There are two main takeaways to this training. First, the safety of our first responders is our utmost concern. DSS and DOH encourage all first responders to be knowledgeable of the potential side effects of handling these drugs and the treatment of peers should a responder be inadvertently exposed. Secondly, DSS and DOH want to provide first responders with reversal medication for the treatment of peers and patients who present with the symptomatology of a suspected opioid overdose.

**Fall Regional EMS Sessions**

During the fall of 2016, the EMS Program held seven Regional EMS Sessions across South Dakota. These sessions were so well received, the Program decided to host another round during the months of October, November, and December of 2017. The intent of the 2016 Regional EMS sessions was to share the recent needs assessment survey of ambulance services and to listen and learn from local EMS agencies regarding local challenges. This year, we will still provide listening and learning sessions, however, we will also focus time on the Naloxone Project and the new ImageTrend ePCR platform.

The Office of Rural Health is making this required training for licensed ambulance services in South Dakota. We are asking each ambulance service to send one to two individuals to represent their agency and function as train the trainers. CME hours will be provided for those in attendance. If your service absolutely cannot attend the training for one reason or another, please contact our office for alternative solutions.

The regional EMS sessions will be held from 5:30 PM to approximately 10:00 PM Central Time with the exception of sessions held in Rapid City and Spearfish which will be Mountain Time.
Survey Monkey Invitation

In order to optimize the success of these Regional EMS sessions, the EMS Program is asking you to complete a short 10 minute survey. This survey will assist the EMS Program in planning for the Regional EMS sessions. The survey will ask you to identify which location you would be interested in attending along with agency specific demographic information.

Please complete this brief survey by August 24th, 2017.

Survey Monkey Hyperlink: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F9NF5RG

Training Dates and locations: (Sessions will run from 5:30 PM to approximately 10PM)

- Monday, October 16th, 2017       Sioux Falls       5:30 PM CT
- Tuesday, October 17th, 2017      Watertown        5:30 PM CT
- Wednesday, October 18th, 2017    Aberdeen         5:30 PM CT
- Monday, November 20th, 2017      Rapid City       5:30 PM MT
- Tuesday, November 21st, 2017     Spearfish        5:30 PM MT
- Monday, December 11th, 2017      Mitchell         5:30 PM CT
- Tuesday, December 12th, 2017     Pierre           5:30 PM CT
- Wednesday, December 13th, 2017   Mobridge        5:30 PM CT

After the EMS Program has compiled the survey results, a confirmation letter will be mailed to the primary contact identifying the physical training location and instructions.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by email at marty.link@state.sd.us or phone at 605-367-5372.

Sincerely,

Marty Link
Director of EMS and Trauma