Cadillac ED Meets Patient Needs in Disaster

One of the lessons Cadillac Hospital staff took away from the May 21 Manton motel explosion and fire is to take drills seriously.

Cadillac Hospital Vice President of Medical Affairs Joe Santangelo, MD, said the hospital had little advance notice of what to expect when three priority one patients arrived through the Emergency Department’s ambulance bay early that morning.

“We really did have very little notice of what was coming, what the casualties were, and the issues related to the patients,” he said. “When patients arrived they had not had as much prehospital care as we normally see. Patients were sicker than expected and it required all hands on deck.”

Because of the nature of injuries and equipment at the disaster scene, patients had not been intubated. Helicopters were flying to the hospital from Grand Rapids and Saginaw to take them to higher level care.

Emergency physician Timothy Huschke, MD, was the lone provider as the incident unfolded with the first patient arrival at 4:37 am. The on-duty hospitalist Troy Ahlstrom, MD, and on-call surgeon Timothy Iseri, MD, responded to the triage needs as well as additional nursing and Lab staff. Patients were intubated, stabilized and quickly sent downstate.

North Flight EMS Board member and Cadillac Emergency Department physician Shaun Ramsey, DO, said while typical trauma protocols call for patients to go to Traverse City, the EMS team made the right call in quickly evaluating these particular patient needs and sending them to Cadillac.

“Making that call to go to Cadillac at least gave those patients a fighting chance because they would have lost their airway enroute somewhere between Manton and Traverse City,” he said. “This is the perfect example of why you have to think on your feet when you are out there on the scene.”

Dr. Santangelo said Cadillac medical staff appreciated the confidence of EMS staff to send the patients their way.

“We took that as a positive thing for us. Everyone did a great job and it really brought up two takeaway points. One is the need for drills, and to take those drills seriously because they really do apply to real life scenarios,” he said. “The other is making sure that we have all our systems and resources in place so we can get all of those resources to the patients right away.”

A mass casualty drill is planned for Cadillac Hospital later this summer.

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Diabetes Education Program

The hospital’s diabetes educator, Cindy Bosscher, RN, CDE, has retired. Although the diabetes education program was valued, it was not heavily utilized so we took this time to close the program and explore opportunities for improvement. Please note that diabetes education is still available in Cadillac. Referrals can be made as usual, and they will be addressed in timely fashion.

Key hospital and PHO staff, office managers, Dr. Dianne Conrad, and representatives from Traverse City are working together to evaluate options for a successful collaborative diabetes education program. There is thinking on whether having an educator in the clinic setting may be more beneficial than the hospital setting, and the team is working hard to quickly get a replacement program up and running.

Short-term goals include hiring a RN-DM program lead to provide integrated diabetes education in both the inpatient and community settings. This role will align education with community partners, create emergency supply kits covered by insurances, and partner with community care.

Continued on next page
CME Offerings Available

We encourage providers to attend the free CME offerings available for Munson Healthcare Cadillac Hospital Medical Staff (including PA and NP Providers). Many of these lectures are broadcast via webinar and REMEC, including Friday Medical Conference and Tuesday Grand Rounds. Tuesday Grand Rounds are currently on summer recess – June, July, and August. CME credit is awarded for remote, live participation.

To view a listing of upcoming CME events and to register: munsonhealthcare.org/cme

Also available on the CME Portal is a “How-To Guide” detailing how to:
• Add CME Portal app to your mobile device
• Create an account/sign in
• Search and register for a CME activity
• View current CME program schedule/history
• Manage CME credits

If you have any questions, please contact Munson Healthcare CME at 231-935-2953 or cme@mhc.net.

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The following providers are no longer practicing in the area:
• Kali C. White, PA-C; Emergency Department
• Jay Jones, MD; Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

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Diabetic Education Program, from pg. 13

Managers and Munson Healthcare system resources to build a patient-centered program.

Long-term goals include ongoing education for care managers around DM, development of Certified Diabetic Educators in the community, a PCMH approach to DM education using some creative approaches like telemedicine, and “Diabetes Day” where patients could get all of their DM needs met in one location with stations, and/or group education. The team is excited and committed to work together to meet patients’ needs in an efficient patient-centered way.

If you have input or feedback on Diabetes Education, please contact Beth Oberhaus at 231-876-7362 or boberhaus@mhc.net. Thank you!

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