



November 2017

Region XI EMS Monthly Pearls

- As temperatures drop, consider **carbon monoxide** as a cause of vague complaints such as headache, dizziness, nausea/vomiting, confusion, and loss of consciousness.
- All EMS units have an assigned Base Station for **Online Medical Control contact**. If the patient is transported to a Region XI Base Station, crews may call this hospital directly.
- Certain Region XI Comprehensive Emergency Departments do NOT have **Obstetric capabilities** and should not receive pregnant patients, these include: Comer, Community First, Loretto, Lurie, Weiss, South Shore, and Thorek.
 - For the University of Chicago Medical Center, the Comer Pediatric ED is the preferred destination after a prehospital delivery and can receive both the mother and baby.
- **Needle decompression** should be performed on patients with evidence of thoracic trauma AND either traumatic arrest or evidence of tension pneumothorax (SBP < 90 mmHg and respiratory distress or respiratory failure)

Questions? Contact your hospital EMS Coordinator or EMS Medical Director