



February 2019

## Region XI EMS Monthly Pearls

- **Paramedic Competency Testing** will be held for Chicago Fire Department in February/March and for Private Providers in April. CFD paramedics should sign up for an open date now and Private Provider dates are being scheduled.
- **Opiate pain medications** are now weight based dosing. Morphine is 0.1 mg/kg IV. For patients age  $\leq 65$  y/o the maximum dose is 10 mg and for age  $> 65$  y/o the maximum dose is 5 mg.
- **VAD patients** should be transferred to a VAD center, and preferentially their VAD center if within 25 minutes.
- **Comprehensive Stroke Centers** are capable to care for severe strokes as they have 24/7 advanced imaging and procedures, trained personnel and a Neurological ICU.
- For Cardiac Arrest **CARES** questions an arrest is considered 'witnessed' if it was seen or heard by anyone including EMS.

Questions? Contact your hospital EMS Coordinator or EMS Medical Director