



ADVOCATE ILLINOIS MASONIC MEDICAL CENTER  
JOHN H. STROGER JR. HOSPITAL OF COOK COUNTY  
NORTHWESTERN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MEDICAL CENTER

DATE: April 10, 2026  
TO: Region 11 EMS Clinicians  
Region 11 EMS Base Stations  
FROM: **REGION 11 EMS MEDICAL DIRECTORS CONSORTIUM**  
SUBJECT: **“RESPIRATORY UPDATE 2026” MANDATORY EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE)**

There will be a “Respiratory Update 2026” mandatory EMS Continuing Education (CE) assignment for all EMTs, Paramedics, ECRNs, and ECPs in the Region 11 Chicago EMS Systems that will begin April 14, 2026, and must be completed by May 14, 2026, at 1200 hours. This will be a two (2) hour CE assignment.

For EMTs and Paramedics, this education is available on the **Vector Solutions – EMS Medical Directors Consortium** site and you should receive notice of the assignment through the email linked to your account. It is important to read all the documents and view the complete videos prior to attempting the test. Users who do not achieve a 75% score after three attempts will not receive credit for the assignment and must contact their Resource Hospital for review. On successful completion, users will earn a certificate with two (2) hours of Continuing Education in the “Airway Management and Ventilation” Core Content Category. The certificate will be listed under “My History” and it does NOT need to be uploaded and submitted again.

For EMTs and Paramedics who fail to complete the mandatory Continuing Education (CE) prior to the date and time deadline as stated above, that EMS clinician will receive written notification from the EMS System Coordinator via the email associated with their Vector Solutions – EMS Medical Directors Consortium site. This email serves as an official notification of the failure to meet deadline requirements and includes the intent to suspend from EMS System Participation. The EMS clinician’s employer agency will be copied on the email notification.

**Failure to complete the mandatory assignment by the deadline (May 14 at 1200 hours), will result in a required administrative fee of \$100/CE credit hour.** After the deadline of the mandatory assignment, there is a 15-day grace period to complete the CE requirements and arrange payment of the administrative fee with the EMS Clinician’s assigned EMS System Coordinator (per the profile in Vector Solutions). Failure to complete requirements of the mandatory CE and administrative fee payment before the end of the 15-day grace period (May 29 at 1200 hours), will result in suspension of EMS System Participation in Region 11. This grace period serves as an opportunity for the EMS clinician to have due process prior to suspension of EMS System Participation in Region 11. The administrative fee for this mandatory Continuing Education assignment is \$200 and the suspension date is June 1, 2026, at 0800 hours.

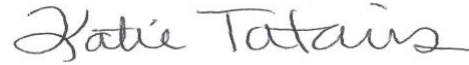
For all ECRNs and ECPs, the education will be provided through your EMS Coordinator or EMS Medical Director and two hours of ECRN CE will be provided.

The implementation date for the new Region 11 Protocols, Policies and Procedures from the “Respiratory Update 2026” Continuing Education assignment is June 1, 2026.

Please contact your Resource Hospital with questions.



Kenneth Pearlman, MD  
Chair, Region 11 EMS Medical Directors Consortium  
EMS Medical Director  
Northwestern Memorial Hospital



Katie Tataris, MD, MPH  
EMS Medical Director  
University of Chicago Medical Center



Eddie Markul, MD  
EMS Medical Director  
Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center



Joseph Weber, MD  
EMS Medical Director  
John H. Stroger Jr., Hospital of Cook County

Copy to: Kathryn 'KC' Booth RN, EMS System Coordinator, Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center  
Cyd Gajewski RN, EMS System Coordinator, University of Chicago Medical Center  
Patricia Lindeman RN, EMS System Coordinator, Northwestern Memorial Hospital  
Shannon Ziolkowski RN, Paramedic, EMS System Coordinator, John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County