**EmergiPress Continuing Education – 1 Unit CE**

March 2022

The EmergiPress Education Newsletter is and educational offering provided by the Los Angeles County EMS Agency. Completing all sections should take approximately 1 hour. After completing the sections, the corresponding EmergiPress test can be completed and submitted for 1 unit CE through your provider agency continuing education coordinator. A passing score of 80% and completion of a course evaluation is required for CE credit. Students must also sign-in on an EMS CE Roster or take course via a LMS to track completion.

**Objectives:**

Upon completing this activity the participant will be able to:

Case of the Month – Mechanical Circulatory Support Devices

* Describe the types of mechanical circulatory support devices EMS may encounter in Los Angeles County.
* Describe the operation of a mechanical circulatory support device and how it affects patient assessment (i.e. obtaining vital signs).
* Recognize conditions that patients with mechanical circulation devices are at risk for.
* Describe the role of a mechanical circulatory support device coordinator and when they should be contacted.
* Review ​device securing considerations when transporting a patient with a mechanical circulatory support device.

ECG of the Month – Ventricular Bigeminy

* Identify ventricular bigeminy on ECG.
* Define ventricular bigeminy as a typically benign alternating normal sinus beats with premature ventricular contractions.
* Describe the most common causes of ventricular bigeminy.
* Describe cardiac dysrhythmias that may rarely evolve from ventricular bigeminy and the importance of patient monitoring during transport.

Video of the Month - Mechanical Circulatory Support Devices

* Describe mechanical circulatory support devices EMS may encounter in LA County and their functionality.
* Describe the control panel for the Heart Mate II, Heart Mate 3, and HeartWare HVAD/Medtronic HVAD mechanical circulatory support devices.
* Describe how to assess circulation, airway, breathing and device for a mechanical circulatory support device patient.
* Review specific treatments that are contraindicated in specific mechanical circulatory support device patients [e.g. nitroglycerin contraindicated for Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD), epinephrine, chest compressions and defibrillation contraindicated for Total Artificial Heart (TAH) patients].