



Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team

Illinois Nurse Team

In This Issue:

Message from the Board, pg.1

Portable Ultrasound pg. 2

2018 Training pg. 3

Updating Your Response Bag pg. 4

2017 Wrap Up, pg. 5

Winter 2017

Dear IMERT Members:

On behalf of the IMERT Board and staff, I would like to wish you a peaceful holiday season and happy and healthy New Year.

We would like to thank you for the time and service you have given to our organization.

We look forward to seeing you all again soon at trainings in the new year!

Dr. Moses Lee, MD, FACEP
IMERT Medical Director

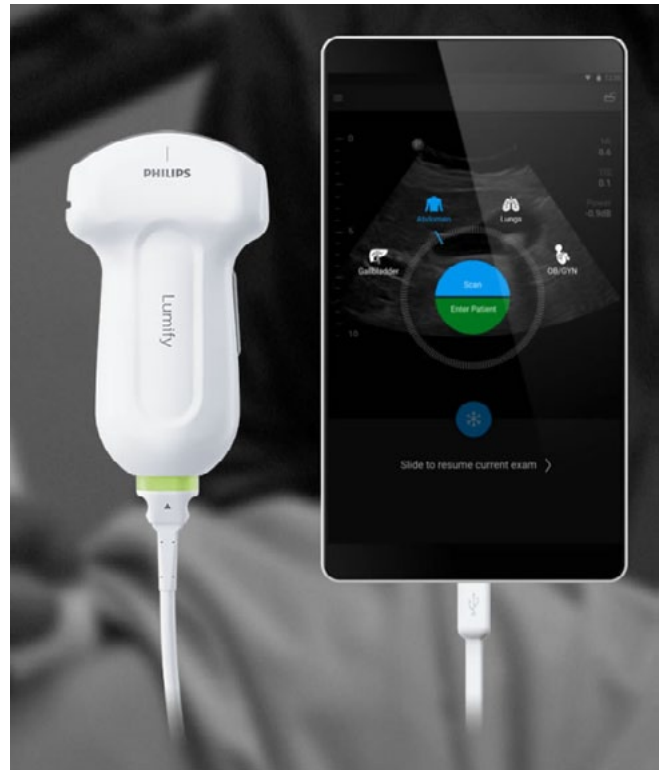


Happy New Year

PORTABLE ULTRASOUND

IMERT has purchased a Philips Lumify portable Ultrasound probe. The technology has advanced quite a bit from the days of cumbersome machines and computers. The unit can work with a tablet or a phone on the android based system and is basically plug and go.

This technology is already being used for emergency care around the world. Having point-of-care ultrasound available will be a great advantage, helping us to diagnose and treat patients in complicated circumstances. It is a non-invasive, harmless technology that allows patients and doctors more confidence in a stressful situation. It is also very cost effective as, after the initial investment, no further costs are incurred.



Dr. Moses Lee is in the process of developing training in emergency ultrasound over the next few months. The goal will be to offer useful ultrasound techniques for mass casualty care applications and certain procedures useful for our response team. We hope to be able to offer these training modules to our members in mid-2018.



2018 TRAINING

The training program for 2018 is going to focus on “boots on the ground” training that will include deployment of team members and equipment to specific sites around the state. Included in the objectives will be notification, tracking of responders, set up and operation of a Temporary Medical Treatment Site (TMTS) and demobilization. We will schedule at least 4 of these events and give you ample notice for scheduling purposes. As a reminder, you only need to attend one face-to-face training a year to remain active with IMERT.

We will also offer 2 moulage classes for those of you interested in learning how to do it or improving your skills. We are aiming for a course in the spring and summer though we are still working on locations and other details.



Another training focus this coming year will be in providing formal STOP THE BLEED instruction during IMERT trainings and to community partners.



This program was begun as a part of an American College of Surgeons initiative to assist our national preparedness. Anyone at the scene of an emergency can act as an immediate responder to save a life if you know what

to do. This program focuses on bleeding control techniques including using hands, dressings, and tourniquets. Our goal is for many of you, our members, to become instructors and be able to bring this course back to your own communities. You can read more about this program at <https://www.bleedingcontrol.org/>.

We will start by sending some team members to the American College of Surgeons Instructor Class in Chicago in early 2018. We have room for 4 or 5 more participants so please contact Mary Connelly to let her know if you are interested in attending by sending an email to: maryc@imert.org

UPDATE YOUR RESPONSE BAG

Now that winter has fully set in, please remember to update your response bag from warm weather operations to include cold weather gear.

This should include removing all of your warm-weather gear from your bag and adding the following items. Remember, being able to layer is always best:



- Hat/gloves
- Coat
- Extra long-sleeves and pull-overs
- Long underwear
- Heavy duty socks
- Hand-warmers

It would also be a good time to check any perishables you have in your bag and refresh any that may have expired.

For a guide on what should be in your bag, visit the IMERT website's Team Member section.

AMAZON SMILE

*Support us when you
shop this holiday*

Amazon donates when you
shop at smile.amazon.com.



If you do your shopping on Amazon, you can support your favorite charity when you do so. Simply go to <https://smile.amazon.com>. The first time you go on you pick your charity, and that's it. After that you do your shopping like normal. There are a lot of great charities out there that you can support just by buying the things you would anyway. Every time you go to Amazon to make a purchase, just remember to start at smile.amazon.com.

IMERT is registered as the Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team, [http://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-0944660](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-0944660).

2017 SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

Looking back on 2017 a lot has been accomplished. We have made substantial progress in the further development of telemedicine capabilities. We transitioned from a video-conferencing concept to utilizing the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN). This provides a secure platform for sharing video, audio and documents. In a disaster situation this technology can provide situational awareness as well as provide options for medical consultation by physicians and others who are located remotely. During this year we implemented this technology in a variety of settings. We are going to continue this effort in the upcoming year.

IMERT has been working with EMSC (Emergency Medical Services for Children) on developing the Pediatric Care Medical Specialist Team (PCMS). This team is meant to provide remote advanced medical advice and direction to clinicians during a mass casualty event that has multiple pediatric victims. We anticipate this will be very useful for critical access hospitals and others who may be unaccustomed to treating critically injured or ill children for extended periods of time.

IMERT provided multiple training activities this year and participated in a number of exercises with other agencies. If you don't follow us on Facebook, look us up, @ilmedteam. We frequently share updates and photos. Looking forward to another great year in 2018.

