

General Presentation Syllabus

Title: *EMS Mythbusters: Discarding the Dogma*

Intended Audience: General

Length: 60 minutes

Brief Description:

“EMTs don’t diagnose.”
“Spinal immobilization is beneficial.”
“We work under the medical director’s license.”
“We save lives.”
“Helicopters are the ultimate transport.”
“Because we have always done it that way.”
“We have to stop even if we aren’t on duty.”
“Pulse oximetry is the 4th vital sign.”

Join the EMS Mythbusters as they examine these statements and more, question the dogma of EMS and subject it to the scrutiny of research and common sense. Prepare to have your assumptions challenged!

Objectives:

1. Examine the validity of the following statement: *Spinal immobilization is beneficial and should be routinely applied to trauma patients.*
2. Examine the validity of the following statement: *EMTs treat based purely on assessment findings, not diagnoses.*
3. Examine the validity of the following statement: *The medical control physician is liable for our mistakes.*
4. Examine the validity of the following statement: *EMS care actually reduces mortality.*

Resources Required: LCD projector, computer audio, 2 lapel microphones, wireless mouse