



EMS Information Bulletin - #7

DATE: November 26, 2003

SUBJECT: On-Line Continuing Education

TO: EMS Practitioners

FROM: Emergency Medical Services Office
PA Department of Health

On-line practitioner records and registration of courses continues to be the first priority for the Department in regards to EMS continuing education. Future efforts will focus on expanding on-line opportunities but in the interim, regional EMS councils can be instrumental in assisting practitioners to meet existing requirements for CE by helping them understand what options exist. The Department's Learning Management System (LMS), journal articles from EMS and JEMS Magazines, and Pulse videotapes are viable options to in-person continuing education courses that are currently available across the state.

Currently, besides LMS, the only web-based education that is approved for EMS continuing education (CE) in Pennsylvania is EMInet, which was acquired by HealthStream in January 2000. HealthStream contains all new educational content that has NOT YET been approved for CE in Pennsylvania. After discussion with HealthStream regarding the difficulties that the timing of this change is presenting for Pennsylvania, HealthStream has offered to assist Pennsylvania practitioners to meet their CE needs for the upcoming December 31, 2003 certification/authorization period.

HealthStream will set up temporary accounts in its EMInet platform for *new* Pennsylvania customers and allow access to the EMInet platform to those who have already set up accounts in HealthStream's Healthcare Learning Center™ (HLC.) HealthStream will e-mail individual EMS HLC customers and provide them with instructions on how to access their temporary accounts in the EMInet platform. HealthStream will also work directly with organizational customers on the creation of their temporary EMInet accounts. Under this structure, EMS practitioners in Pennsylvania will be able to use the currently approved EMInet courses to help fulfill their continuing education requirements until the application process for the new courses is complete. If an individual has paid for and taken CE on the HealthStream website, they will be permitted to take the same amount of CE on EMInet without incurring further charges. If you have any questions or difficulties, you may contact HealthStream directly at (800) 521-0574 or contact@healthstream.com.