MUSKEGON COUNTY
Medical Control Authority

1903 Marquette Ave, Suite J 102, Muskegon, MI 49442

Lesson Plan: Courage to Be Safe

Topic: Courage to Be Safe

Presenter: Muskegon County Medical Control Authority CE Sponsor Program

Location: Muskegon County Medical Control Authority CE Sponsor Locations

Credit Category: Preparatory

License Level: MFR, EMT-B, AEMT, Paramedic

Credits: 4 Preparatory

Format: 4 hour lecture

Objectives: At the conclusion of this CE session, the participants will be able to:

Cognitive

1. Describe the mission of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and how it supports EMS safety through the Courage to Be Safe® program.
2. Summarize the purpose and key goals of the Courage to Be Safe initiative and its relevance to EMS operations.
3. Identify and explain the 16 Life Safety Initiatives and how they apply to EMS systems and field operations.
4. Recognize contributing factors to EMS line-of-duty deaths (LODDs) and injuries, including fatigue, unsafe driving, scene hazards, and violence.
5. Analyze how leadership and organizational culture affect EMS safety practices and provider behavior.
6. Define personal accountability in EMS and describe how individual decisions impact team and patient safety.
7. Apply situational awareness and risk assessment in prehospital settings, including dynamic, high-risk scenes.
8. Evaluate the dangers of complacency, cognitive overload, and confirmation bias in EMS clinical and operational decision-making.
9. Describe strategies to incorporate safety into EMS training, documentation, transport, and patient care.
10. Discuss the psychological and emotional impact of line-of-duty deaths and critical incidents on EMS providers and their families.
11. Explain the role of wellness, physical health, and mental health support systems in maintaining EMS provider readiness and resilience.
12. Demonstrate a commitment to courageous leadership by modeling and advocating for safety, accountability, and continuous improvement in EMS operations.

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Psychomotor

None

Affective

None

Outline for Lecture Presentation:

1. Introductions
2. Understand and describe the key national and local causes of firefighter fatalities.
3. Detailed presentation and discussion on the causes of firefighter fatalities and the effects of such on associated groups of people.
4. Detailed discussion on the 16 Life Safety Initiatives.
5. Discussion and presentation on tools to develop strategies for turning the 16 Initiatives into action steps.
6. Discussion and presentation on the importance of advocacy of firefighter safety and implementation of the firefighter life safety initiatives.
7. Group discussion and presentation of resources readily available to fire department personnel such as (EAP, CISM etc.)
8. Detailed discussion on how to develop a plan of action for implementation of a safety initiative(s)
9. Presentation how to look for —Fatal Chain of Errors
10. Summary and Questions

Student Evaluation Method: No formal evaluation of participants will occur.

Evaluation of Presentation: Continuing Education Program Sponsor Evaluation Form will be filled out by all participants.

Rationale for Presentation: Given information from discussion, handouts and reading materials, the participant will be able to develop an individual action plan towards prevention of firefighter and EMS line-of-duty injury and death. The presentation is an important part of reinforcing and developing firefighters and EMS providers' critical thinking skills. This lends to better and safer scenes, pre-hospital patient treatment and provider confidence.

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