

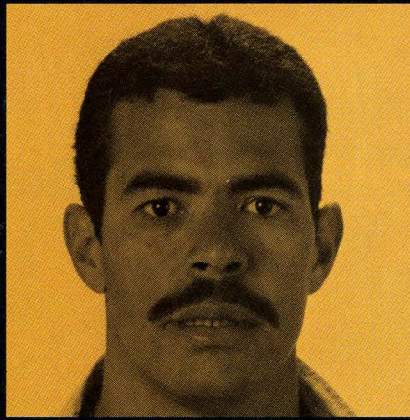
jems

JOURNAL OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



Pediatric Assessment
for C.E.U. credits
on page 63

Care at the Winter Games Hypokalemia and Cardiac Arrest



**Are All
Patients
Created
Equal?**

CONTENTS

APRIL 1988, VOL. 13, NO. 4

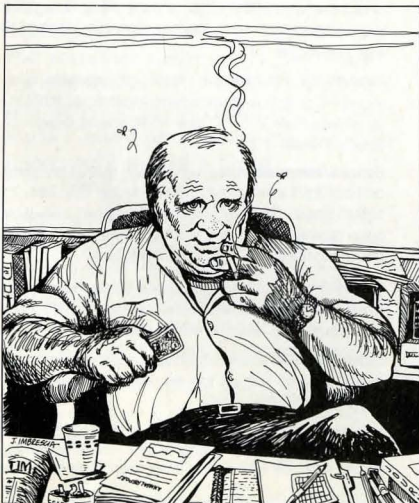
FEATURES



6



50



69

- 36 The Far Limits of Rural EMS** BY KATE DERNOCOEUR. Development of EMS for American Indians, like so many other Indian projects, has lagged behind the mainstream. Strides have been made in the past few years to improve EMS on the reservation.
- 40 Cultural Perspective** BY JOHN BECKNELL, EMT. Emergency care can be intrusive, unfamiliar and counter-cultural to the people we care for. Gaining a perspective that goes beyond the medical needs opens the possibility not only for better care of people, but for greater job fulfillment.
- 44 Prejudice** BY KATE DERNOCOEUR. The United States has been coined the melting pot of the world where everyone can live in harmony and freedom. However, almost everyone here, including EMS personnel, is still susceptible to prejudice. We are learning that not only the harm it causes but the prejudice itself can be minimized by recognizing it and leashing it.
- 50 Canadian EMS Takes on the Olympics** BY LOREN MARSHALL. Administration of EMS to meet the increased demand from the Olympic crowd in Calgary required a lot of planning and work, but the results were impressive.
- 56 Hypokalemia and Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest** BY RICHARD FELDMAN, REMT-P AND ROGER D. WHITE, MD. Many investigators have demonstrated a relationship between hypokalemia and cardiac arrhythmias. Hypokalemia after cardiac arrest has also been observed yet the causal relationship between low serum potassium concentration and sudden cardiac death remains uncertain.

COLUMNS

- 5 Publisher's Page** by Jim Page – **59 Pediatric Notebook** by Brent H. Dierking and Max Ramenofsky, MD – The Stress of Trauma.
- 6 Guest Comment** by Norbert Arnold – "We'll Call You Roy!"
- 24 Current Research** by Bruce Goldfarb.
- 29 Innovations** by Thom Dick – What's New for '88?
- 35 Special Report** by Kate Dernocoeur – Where Have All the Paramedics Gone?
- 66 Legal File** by C.J. Shanaberger – No Apparent Injuries.
- 69 Interface** by Jack Stout – Corporate Image.
- 82 Clinical Q&A** by Scott Bourn – Seizures.
- 87 In the Industry** by Rick Minerd.

DEPARTMENTS

- 11 Letters** – Top-Billing; Miserable Math; Date Debate; Low-Budget Crash Course; In Deep Water; A Population Consensus; AIDS Support Group; Request for Shift Info; The Volunteer Spirit; Calendar Correction; Bio Corrections.
- 14 Inside EMS** – New Laws Add Penalties for Drunk Drivers; Federal Legislation Needs Lobbying; Equipment Exchange Opens in Colorado; "Safety First" Wasn't Goal of Lap Belts; Organization of EMS Employees
- Moves Forward; Utah Bill Would Require AIDS Testing and Reporting; EMS Today Abstracts.
- 72 Calendar**
- 74 Classifieds**
- 86 Advertiser Directory**
- 88 Inroads**
- 90 The Last Word**

AMCARE

COMMUNICATION SUPERVISOR AND PARAMEDICS

needed for pre-hospital emergency medical and ambulance service central Oklahoma. Providing state-of-the-art ALS care, AmCare answers over 63,000 calls per year. Benefits for AmCare associates

- competitive salary and relocation assistance
- paid inservice and refresher training
- tuition assistance
- malpractice, life, health, dental insurance, retirement
- four day work week (five day for Comm. Supvr.)
- paid vacations and holidays
- quality assurance and public outreach programs
- CAD system utilized
- 911 implementation in 1989
- developing airomedical program

Nationally Registered Paramedics with ACLS and CPR certification interested in joining the AmCare team should send resumes to:

Larry G. Willis
Director of Support Services
AmCare
1111 Classen Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73103

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, applications from qualified females and minorities are encouraged.

For More Information Circle #33 on Reader Service Card

jems

JOURNAL OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

James O. Page, Publisher
Keith Griffiths, Executive Editor
Cleve Trimble, MD, Medical Editor
Rick Miner, Managing Editor
Dana A. Jarvis, Senior Editor
Diane Stocklin, Senior Editor
Betty Till, Senior Editor
Thom Dick, Associate Editor
David M. Beck, Assistant Editor
Vivian Griffiths, Assistant Editor
Nancy Peterson, Editorial Intern
Gary R. Williams, Director of Marketing
Lisa J. Cota, Advertising Director
Susan Seymour, Account Executive
Jeanette M. Frohoff, Production Editor
Pamela Stevenson, Circulation Director
Judy Trimble, Corporate Accountant
Jennifer Hutchinson, Graphics
Penney C. McBride, Executive Assistant
Contributing Editors: Garry Briese;
Norm Dinerman, MD; Mike Frank, MD;
Gary Morris; Mary Newman;
William Roush, MD

Jems Publishing Company, Inc.

James O. Page, Chairman of the Board
Gary R. Williams, President
Keith Griffiths, Secretary-Treasurer

JEMS, *Journal of Emergency Medical Services*, (Fed. ID #22-2357324) is published monthly by JEMS Publishing Co., 674 Via de la Valle, Suite 201, P.O. Box 1026, Solana Beach, CA 92075.

Subscription information: Send \$1795 for one year (12 issues), \$2995 for two years (24 issues) or \$3995 for three years (36 issues) to P.O. Box 27966, San Diego, CA 92128. Add \$6 per year for Canadian subscriptions, \$12 per year for foreign subscriptions. For subscription orders, problems or for a change of address, call toll-free in the 48 contiguous states: 800/828-2514 (in California call 800/331-4164), 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. PST.

Advertising information: Rates are available upon request. Contact Lisa Cota, advertising director, at 674 Via de la Valle, Suite 201, P.O. Box 1026, Solana Beach, CA 92075; 619/481-1128.

Editorial information: Manuscripts and queries should be directed to Diane Stocklin, senior editor, P.O. Box 1026, Solana Beach, CA 92075. Editorial guidelines are available upon request. Submitted manuscripts should be typed, double-spaced and submitted in triplicate.

Microfiche: JEMS is available on microfiche. Please direct inquiries to University Microfilms International, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106; 800/521-3044.

Copyright 1988 Jems Publishing Co. Inc. No material can be reproduced without the express permission of the publisher. ISSN 0197-2510.

Postmaster: Return Form 3579 to JEMS, P.O. Box 27966, San Diego, CA 92128. Claims of non-receipt or damaged issues must be filed within three months of cover date.

Second-class circulation postage paid at Solana Beach, California and at additional mailing offices.

BE PREPARED

NEW Beltclip for '88

- Compact
- Versatile
- Lightweight

With the increase in AIDS, Hepatitis B, and other contagious diseases, EMS personnel are taking every available precaution to guard against infection.

Be ready for every emergency situation with the **PM Plus**. Holds all your lifesaving essentials plus a pocket mask and gloves.

PM Plus can be suited to your individual needs. Pick out what you really need. A variety of scissors, hemostats, penlights, seat belt cutters, etc., are available.

PM Plus can also be ordered without any equipment. There is also **PM Pouch** made strictly for your pocket mask and a pair of gloves. Contact us today for more information on **PM Plus** and **PM Pouch**.

ESP Emergency Specialty Products

943 Daisy Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92008

For More Information Circle #59 on Reader Service Card