MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD.

Information Bulletin

Number: 14-02
April 8, 2014

TO: All MCFRS Personnel

FROM: Division Chief Scott Goldstein
Division of Operations

SUBJECT: Implementation of Medical Priority Dispatch System Version 12.2

Effective April 21, 2014, the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) will begin using an updated version of the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS) which includes new Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) protocols. Most of the changes in the protocol will not be noticeable to field providers. However, you should be aware of the following:

1. There will be a reduced number of CAD response plans.

2. There will be an operational change in the way the event descriptions appear in the CAD record and on the MDC, as well as how they are verbalized by the dispatcher. Here are some examples of the updates:

OLD DESCRIPTION	NEW DESCRIPTION
ABD PAIN W/ DEC-LOC – ALS1	ABDOMINAL PAIN
POSS CODE – ALS2	CARDIAC ARREST
HYPOTHERMIA – UNK STATUS	COLD EXPOSURE

3. Call Takers will now instruct patients who complain of chest pain to take Aspirin. There is a screening process which excludes patients who are allergic to Aspirin or have symptoms of recent gastrointestinal bleeding. After providing pre-arrival Aspirin instructions, an update will be sent to the MDC of units assigned to the event with script such as *"Aspirin Diagnostic: The patient just took aspirin per authorized protocol"*.

4. Call Takers will use a Stroke Diagnostic Tool which consists of questions designed for a bystander to determine the likelihood of stroke. After the tool is utilized, an update will be sent to the MDC of units assigned to the event with script such as *"The Stroke Diagnostic results indicate [partial / strong / clear / no positive] evidence of stroke"*.

5. Call Takers will expedite call interrogation for quicker dispatch and rapidly move to CPR pre-arrival instructions for cardiac arrest patients, which is in-line with current MIEMSS recommendations.

If you need additional information, please contact the Emergency Communications Section Chief, Assistant Chief John Kinsley at 240-773-7101 or john.kinsley@montgomerycountymd.gov.