



CARDIAC ARREST

First responder viewpoint

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What First Responders Think

- ▣ Cardiac Arrest is the worst EMS call to get
- ▣ First, hysterical family members
- ▣ Training, not being prepared
 - This is a big one – No preplan
- ▣ Confusion as to who does what
 - No defined roles
- ▣ Different agencies responding
 - In-house response team, PD, Fire, EMS
 - This may shock you but we don't always play nice in the sandbox together
- ▣ No follow up information on patient outcome
 - For all responders, not just the medics
- ▣ No Q / A or debrief after the call
 - How did we do?



Challenges We Face

- ▣ Attitude
 - Responders
 - ▣ Structure fire
 - Management
 - Emergency Departments
 - Local Government



Challenges We Face

- ▣ Training and Engagement
 - Fire / EMS / PD
 - Local Government
 - Public

Where Do We Start

- ▣ Admit that we're not doing a good job
- ▣ EMS systems have to change their approach
 - First and foremost they have to believe
 - This requires everyone working together:
 - OMG!!! that place down under just froze over





Where Do We Start

- Agencies, local and federal, are so worried about how they look that it's easy to forget about the people we are looking out for...the ones we serve
 - Citizens
- So simple even a child could do it
- In fact, anybody could do it
- A County in NC
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_qP2FmUJ2BE&feature=kp



Somebody Must Believe

- ▣ There has to be at least one person in the system who believes that the agency can do better
- ▣ This attitude must be contagious:
 - The systems management teams must support this
 - Simple changes
 - ▣ How you do CPR
 - Engage everyone, especially the public
 - ▣ Tell them the truth
 - Local governing body
 - ▣ Report to them how you're doing in lives saved
 - Make people comfortable
 - Get rid of the three big fears
 - ▣ Public education – Lead by Fire/EMS agencies



Next Step

- ▣ Understand that the things which make us succeed and the things that cause us to fail are one in the same, US
- ▣ Reach Out, reach out to everyone, no one person or group can do it alone
- ▣ Today is a start

Lets Keep The Beat Going

