REMS 2017

In our 21st year of service, REMS continues to thrive and fulfill its core mission. This was a year of growth, new faces, continued clinical and educational excellence, and perseverance. The biggest story is without a doubt Hurricane Harvey. As the first major hurricane to hit Houston since Hurricane Ike in 2008, Harvey wreaked havoc with its record-breaking rainfall. REMS worked diligently with campus partners to prepare and safely respond to emergencies during the storm.

REMS began 2017 by welcoming four new Incharge trainees and saw their rewarding growth into competent patient care providers. This training process and the duty crew clearance process is at the core of what makes REMS truly successful year after year. Spring 2017 ended with graduation and a bittersweet moment as three Incharges and 10 duty crew members received diplomas. These individuals dedicated a tremendous amount of time to REMS and their achievements were celebrated at the annual spring barbeque.

During the summer, REMS transitioned to the new leadership team and began training and preparation for the 17-18 academic year. REMS hosted a variety of continuing education classes on topics such as respiratory infections, cardiac disease, and a dynamic self-defense class. The standard operating procedures is the policy book that stands together with the clinical guidelines in governing how REMS works. REMS did a complete overhaul for the first time in five years to reflect ongoing growth.

Fall 2017 began with Hurricane Harvey but culminated with a strong spirit and an even stronger vision for 2018. REMS added a brand-new four-seat golf cart to assist with the growing demand for special event coverage. A comprehensive quality improvement program was also launched in Fall 2017. This program’s goal is to identify, through an evidence-based practice model, strengths and weaknesses in current patient care and a strategy to improve them.

With 2018 here, we hope to continue to build off of our achievements and success to fulfill our mission and build the next generation of providers. We look forward to implementing a stronger Incharge training program this year and further the establishment of an endowment fund that was started following our 20th anniversary celebrations. REMS success is not possible without the continued support of our campus partners. We are also grateful for the continued support from our alumni across the country, medical directors, and our community partners throughout Texas.

SAI SUSHEEL CHILAKAPATI    LISA M. BASGALL
EMS Captain               EMS Director

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COORDINATORS

Helen Wei
CPR Coordinator

Rohit Gupta
Public Outreach Coordinator

Lin Guo
Education Assistant

Aseem Utrankar
AED Coordinator

Elizabeth Weeks
Schedule Coordinator

Alexander Lu
Education Assistant

Siddharth Prasad
Website Coordinator

Nathaniel Forrester
Field Training Assistant

EMT/AEMT LEAD INSTRUCTORS

Jake Martin

Trent Herrod

Mario Muniz

medical command

Associate Medical Directors
Mark Escott, MD, MPH, FAAEM, FACEP

Angela Siler Fisher, MD, FACEP

Shane Jenks, MD, MEd

Katarzyna Kimmel, MD, MPH

Tyson Pillow, MD, MEd

Lisa M. Basgall
EMS Director

Cameron Decker, MD
Medical Director

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REMS BY THE NUMBERS

REMS STAFF 2017

EMT 49  
Advanced EMTs 18  
Paramedics 11  
Emergency Physicians 7

Undergraduates 51  
Graduates 1  
Part-Time 33  
Full-Time 1

EMERGENCY CARE

Provided 8448 hours of duty time, ready to respond to emergency calls on campus

REMS members spent a total of 771 hours at outside agencies improving their clinical skills

EDUCATION

57 students took EMS certification courses, including EMT and Advanced EMT courses

Awarded 2167 hours of continuing education for REMS members

SPECIAL EVENTS

Provided 1989 hours of coverage at 152 athletic games, lectures, socials, and other large-scale events.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

54 events including fire drills, caregiver presentations and large-scale presentations.

CPR

Managed 45 Public Access Defibrillators on campus.

Provided 425 members of the Rice Community with First Aid and CPR training with 38 classes.
HURRICANE HARVEY

Hurricane Harvey intensified into a Category 4 hurricane a day before making landfall in Houston on August 25th. It was the first major hurricane to make landfall in Houston since Hurricane Ike in 2008. The unusual stagnation of the hurricane over Houston for two days presented certain challenges that required REMS to adapt and respond quickly.

REMS goal was to ensure the health and safety of over 4000 students and faculty members on campus and to limit the burden of emergency resources from response efforts outside the hedges of Rice University. What began as a three-day response to the hurricane, quickly escalated to an eight-day response with school being shut down for a whole week. Throughout the response, REMS provided 607 hours of campus coverage, with crews stationed at both the North and South colleges ready to respond on foot if needed. On Sunday, August 26th, the National Guard airlifted patients who were affected by the flooding to Rice University. REMS assisted in the transportation efforts these patients from Rice to hospitals in the medical center.

Following the passing of the Hurricane, REMS provided 40 hours of recreation center coverage and assisted with shelter preparation efforts. REMS members were committed to 72 hours of nonstop continual coverage if an on-campus shelter was needed. REMS also hosted a variety of activities to promote active engagement throughout the campus during this time. REMS held two hands-only CPR classes which brought over 55 people. REMS also took the time to orient 13 new members to teach them about REMS’s equipment, procedures, and golf carts.

REMS’ response efforts would not have been successful without the coordinated efforts of campus partners in Rice’s Crisis Management team. We thank them and the students at Rice for their incredible strength, discipline, and empathy during the storm and in the recovery efforts.
COLLEGIATE EMS WEEK

REMS celebrated Collegiate EMS week with several events to promote visibility and bring community awareness to life-saving skills. REMS kicked off EMS week on Monday, November 13th by hosting a Hands-Only CPR class in the RMC which brought over 50 students, faculty, and staff. On Tuesday, REMS partnered with RUPD to host a vitals signs booth in front of the recreation center, which garnered a lot of interest and attention. Through social media, REMS also promoted the endowment fund that was started following the 20th anniversary celebrations.

On Thursday, REMS hosted a fun “Spin the Wheel” trivia game outside of Brochstein Pavillion to expand REMS visibility with free giveaways. On Friday, in keeping with tradition, REMS personnel wore their REMS t-shirts to showcase comprehensive campus presence. EMS Week is always a special opportunity to bring attention to the many aspects and programs within REMS that are ongoing in addition to campus coverage. It is also a time to celebrate the incredible dedication and work the undergraduate volunteers put behind the scenes to promote campus health and safety.

REMS SIGNS CONTRACT WITH SUGAR LAND FIRE & EMS

REMS is excited to announce a new clinical contract with Sugar Land EMS. Rice students enrolled in either the advanced or basic EMS courses are required to ride out with a 911 ambulance agency. Cypress Creek, Harris County Emergency Corps, and Montgomery County Hospital District have been valued partners for years. Rice EMS is pleased to be able to have this new opportunity to gain experience with Sugar Land Fire and EMS professionals.

REMS PURCHASES A NEW GOLF CART

A RECORD NUMBER OF EMS APPLICATIONS

For the Spring 2018 basic class, REMS had over 55 applications for just under 35 spots in the class. It was REMS’ most competitive application pool to date and serves as an indication of the growing interest in the Rice community.