Importance of Emergency Medical Services in Sepsis Care

Pre-hospital care provided by emergency medical service (EMS) personnel can lead to better outcomes for patients.

Benefits of involving EMS in the care of septic patients:
- Sepsis patients are transported by EMS more often than patients with acute myocardial infarctions and strokes.
- First responders transport as many as 60 percent of patients with severe sepsis to the emergency department (ED).
- Early recognition and initiation of treatment for sepsis are the cornerstones of patient management and improved outcomes. EMS plays a vital role in this process by recognition of suspected sepsis, initiation of treatment and advance notification to the receiving facility, allowing for more timely diagnosis and continued treatment upon arrival to the ED.
  - Establishing intravenous access in sepsis patients to facilitate ED interventions has shown to decrease mortality.
  - Initiation of fluid resuscitation by prehospital providers has been shown to decrease patient mortality rates.

Sepsis Alliance: Sepsis First Response video (15 min). [https://youtu.be/07z-8pOgVC8](https://youtu.be/07z-8pOgVC8)
This award-winning video provides EMS and other personnel with the tools to help rapidly identify and begin treating sepsis cases in the field.

Ensure you engaging your EMS providers in sepsis care.

References