



March 22, 2021

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To: All Professionals in the EMS System for Metropolitan Oklahoma City & Tulsa

Re: Cardiac Arrest Survival for Calendar Year 2019

While it is well known I thoroughly detest the impersonal nature of memos, I am particularly pleased to have compelling reason to write this one. My comments are based upon your abilities shown in cardiac arrest resuscitations that occurred in our EMS system in calendar year 2019. Given the complexities of finding patient outcomes in an area as large as we serve, it frankly takes a while to make sure we have all the data right from information supplied by you and our hospital partners. We now have answers. The results are outstanding. For emphasis, these results are not just pretty good; they are outstanding.

The international consensus method for EMS systems in reporting survival from sudden out of hospital cardiac arrest is to report survivability from those cardiac arrests due to heart-related conditions that are witnessed prior to EMS care, that then receive bystander CPR (often initiated via phone direction by emergency medical dispatchers in our system – great job!), and that are subsequently found in a rhythm that is appropriate to defibrillate by automated or manual defibrillator. While we certainly have saved victims of other forms of cardiac arrest, the results in this memo specifically deal with these specific patients.

**In calendar year 2019, you and your colleagues achieved a survival rate of 41.42%! This is the third all-time highest for the EMS System for Metropolitan Oklahoma City and Tulsa, CY2012 being 45.2% and CY2010 being 42%, respectively. Among EMS systems approximating our size in terms of geographic area and patients served, survival success like this is rare. To be sure, this is not a contest among cities; it is a battle we all fight for our patients against sudden cardiac arrest death.**

Equally, if not more impressive, is the fact that **of the 29 individuals that make up that 41.42% number above, fully 27 of the 29 (that's 93%!) survived in full or nearly full neurologically intact status. Amazing.**

On behalf of these patients, their families, and the Medical Control Board/Office of the Medical Director, thank you for your dedication to excellence in out of hospital emergency medical care. We are proud of your commitment to lifesaving. YOU make a difference in these communities and YOU serve as a role model cardiac arrest resuscitator for professionals to follow around the world. To view the Annual Resuscitation Report from the Division Chief of Critical Care Analytics: 2019, please visit [www.okctulomd.com](http://www.okctulomd.com) and select this report under "About Us" and then "Annual Reports" on the homepage.

Well done! Let's keep saving lives in 2021.

Dr. G