

The Peninsulas Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc.

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Effects of COVID-19 on Stroke Transports in the PEMS Region

October 2020

Jeffrey A. Bendit

Sara Watkins

 RIVERSIDE
Neurological & Spine Institute



Peninsulas EMS Council, Inc.

Peninsulas EMS Council, Inc. – EMS Field Coordinator – Hospital Programs

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- Jeffrey A. Bendit, BS, NRP
- Committee Assignments
 - Pharmacy Committee
 - PEMS Interfacility Cooperation Organization
 - Stroke Committee
 - STEMI Committee
 - Trauma Triage Committee



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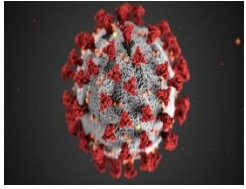
Providing Care to the Sick & Injured

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- 59 Licensed EMS agencies
 - Designated Emergency Response Agencies (911)
 - Interfacility and critical care transport agencies
 - Helicopter EMS agencies
 - Industrial EMS agencies
- Federal EMS agencies



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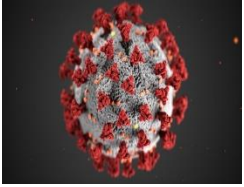
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Objectives

Identify changes in the following:

1. Stroke transports
2. 911 Pre-screening
3. EMS screening
4. Turnover with hospital staff
5. Protocol changes
6. PPE and shortages

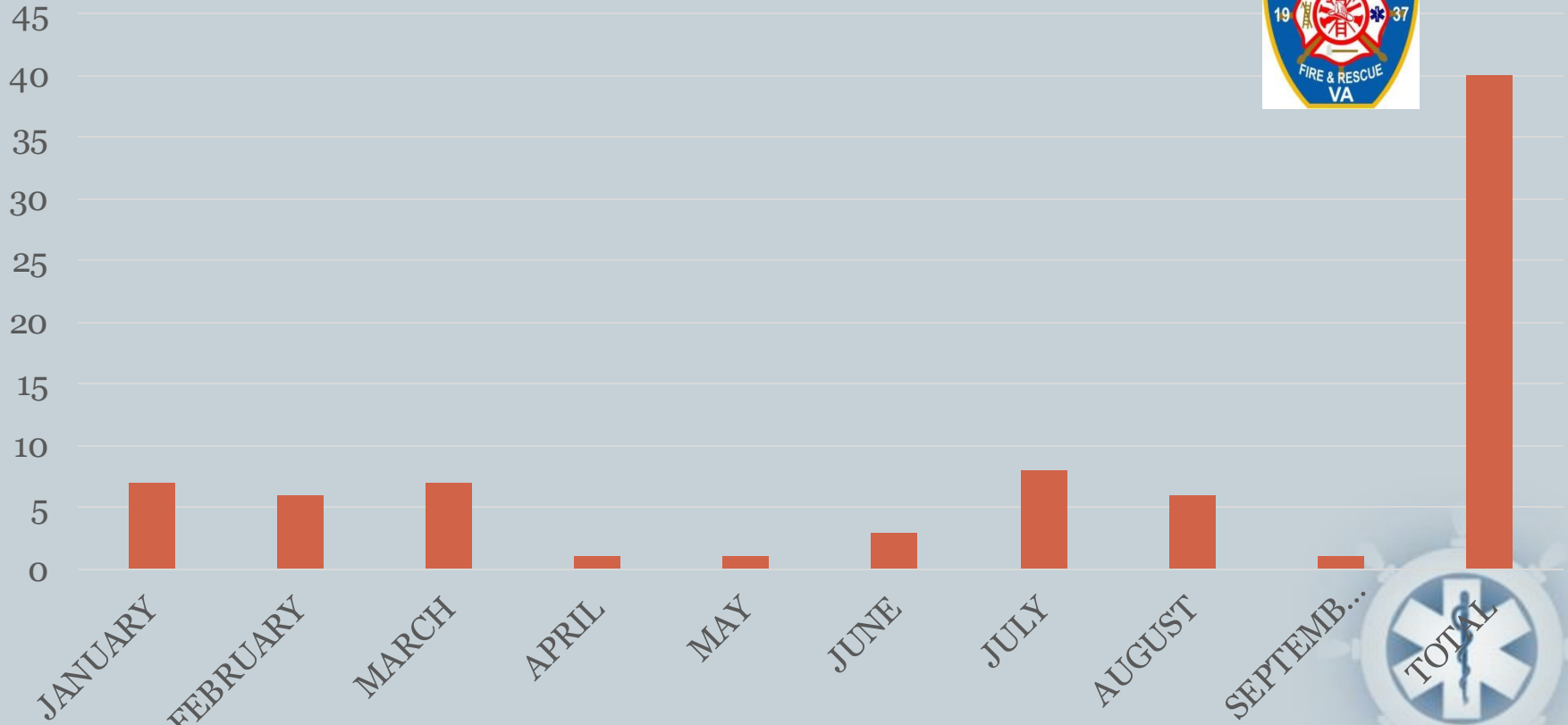


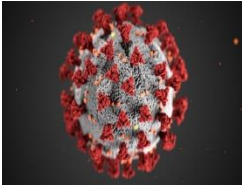


Stroke Transports Gloucester County

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GLOUCESTER





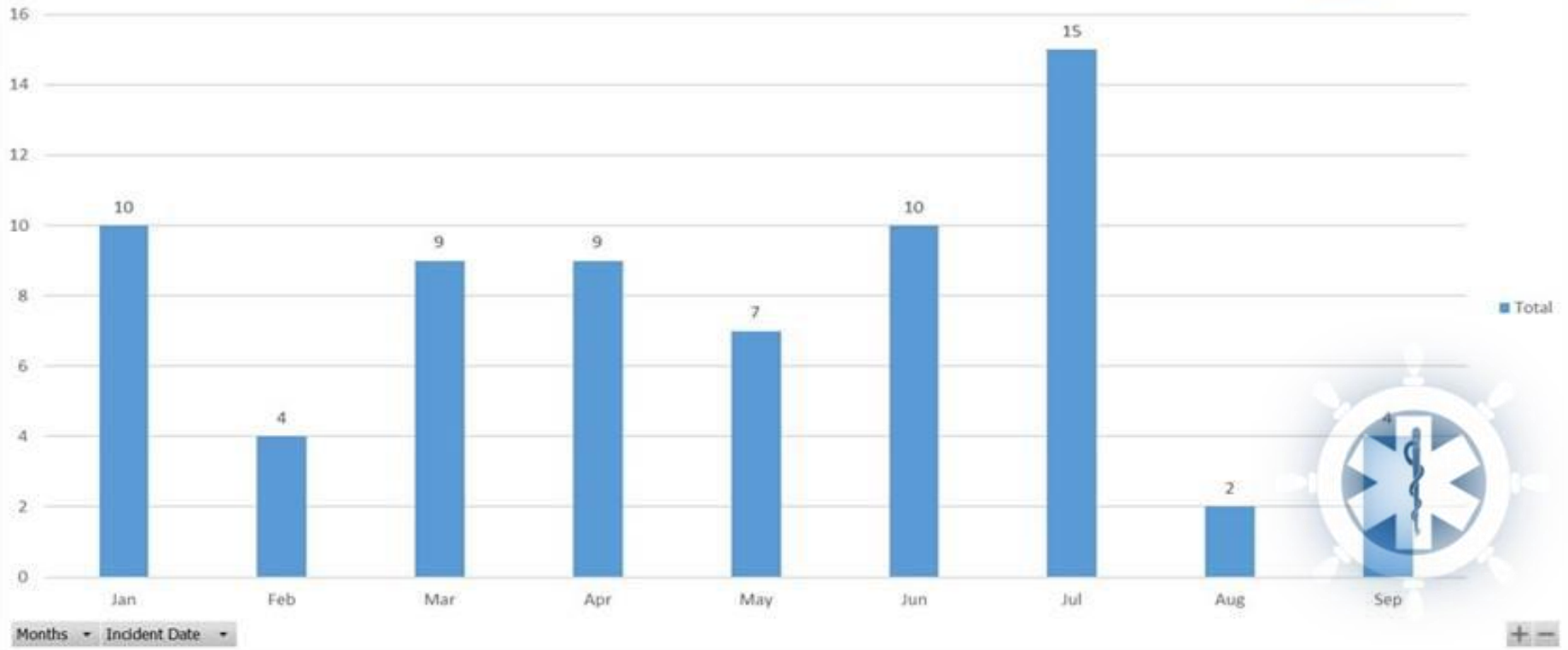
Stroke Transports James City County

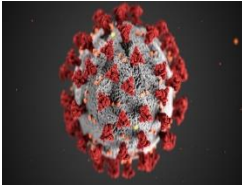
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Situation Provider Primary Impression Code And Description (eSituation.11)

Count of Response Incident Number (eResponse.03)

Number Of Patients Transported Per Month
Provider Primary or Secondary Impression is
Neuro - Stroke or Neuro - TIA
01/01/2020 to 09/24/2020

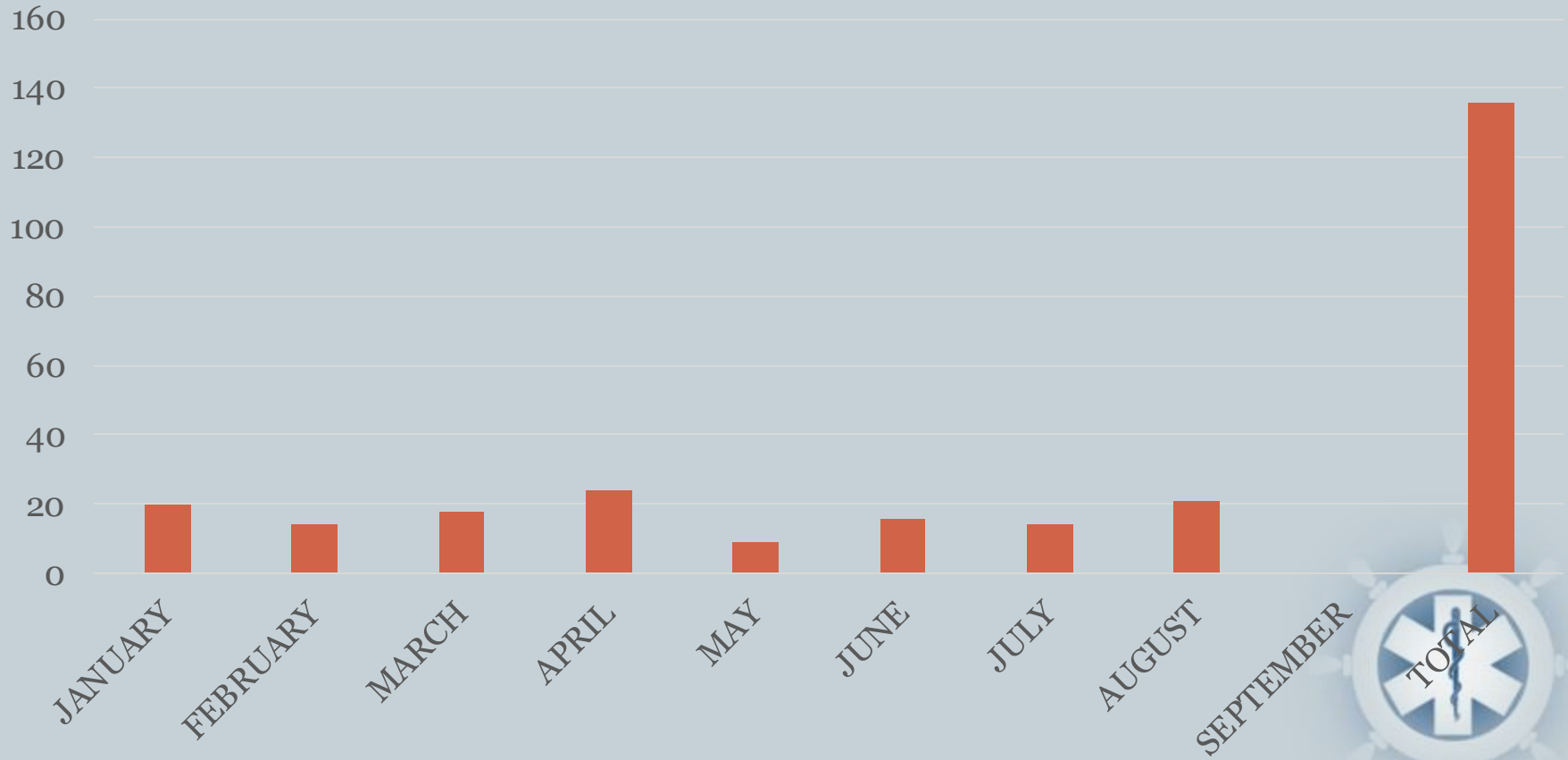


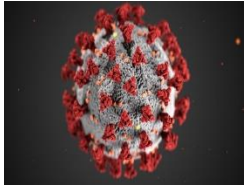


Stroke Transports Newport News

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NEWPORT NEWS

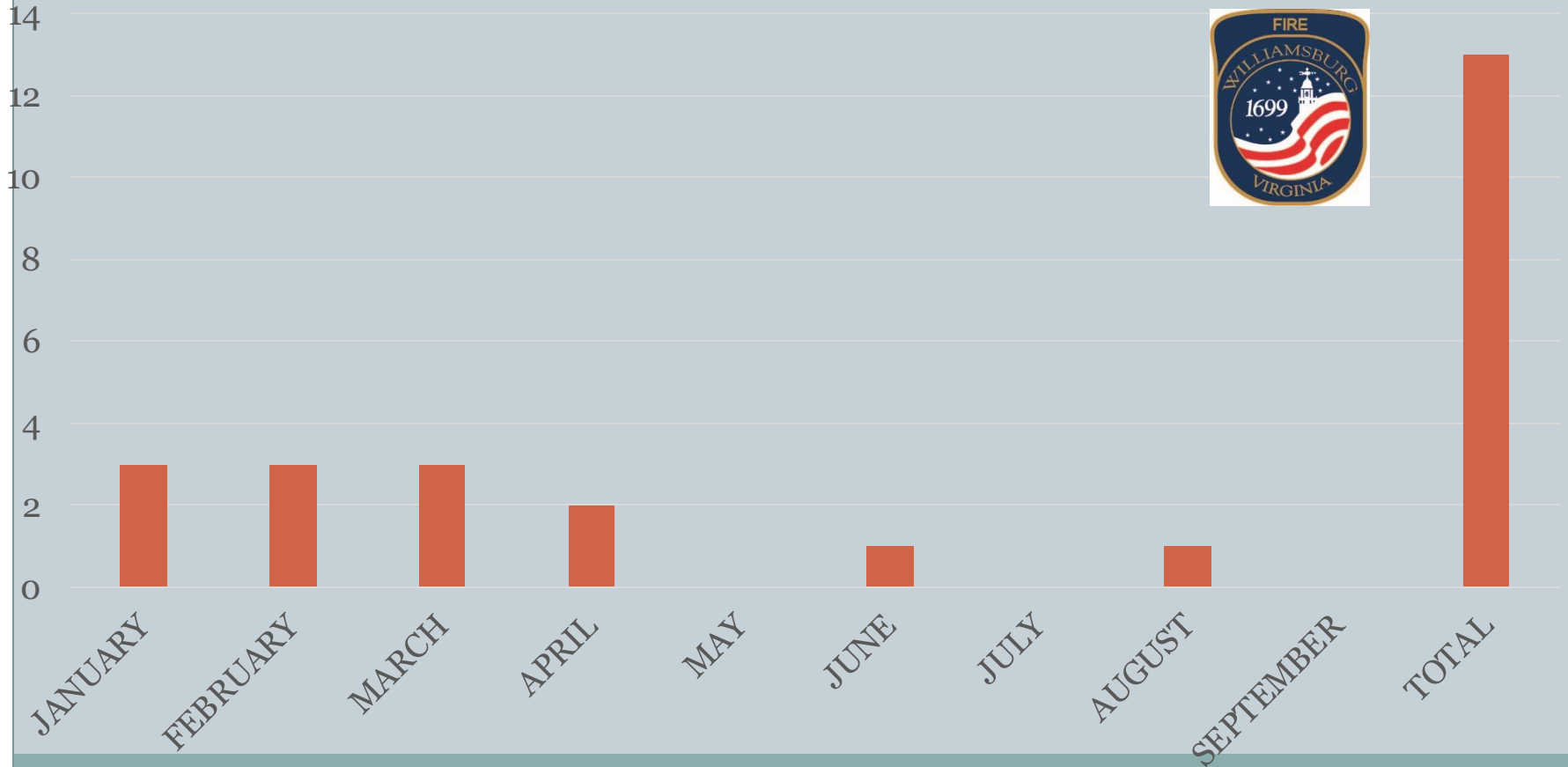


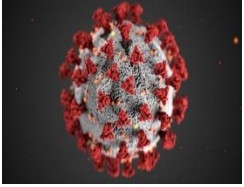


Williamsburg Fire Department

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WILLIAMSBURG FIRE DEPT

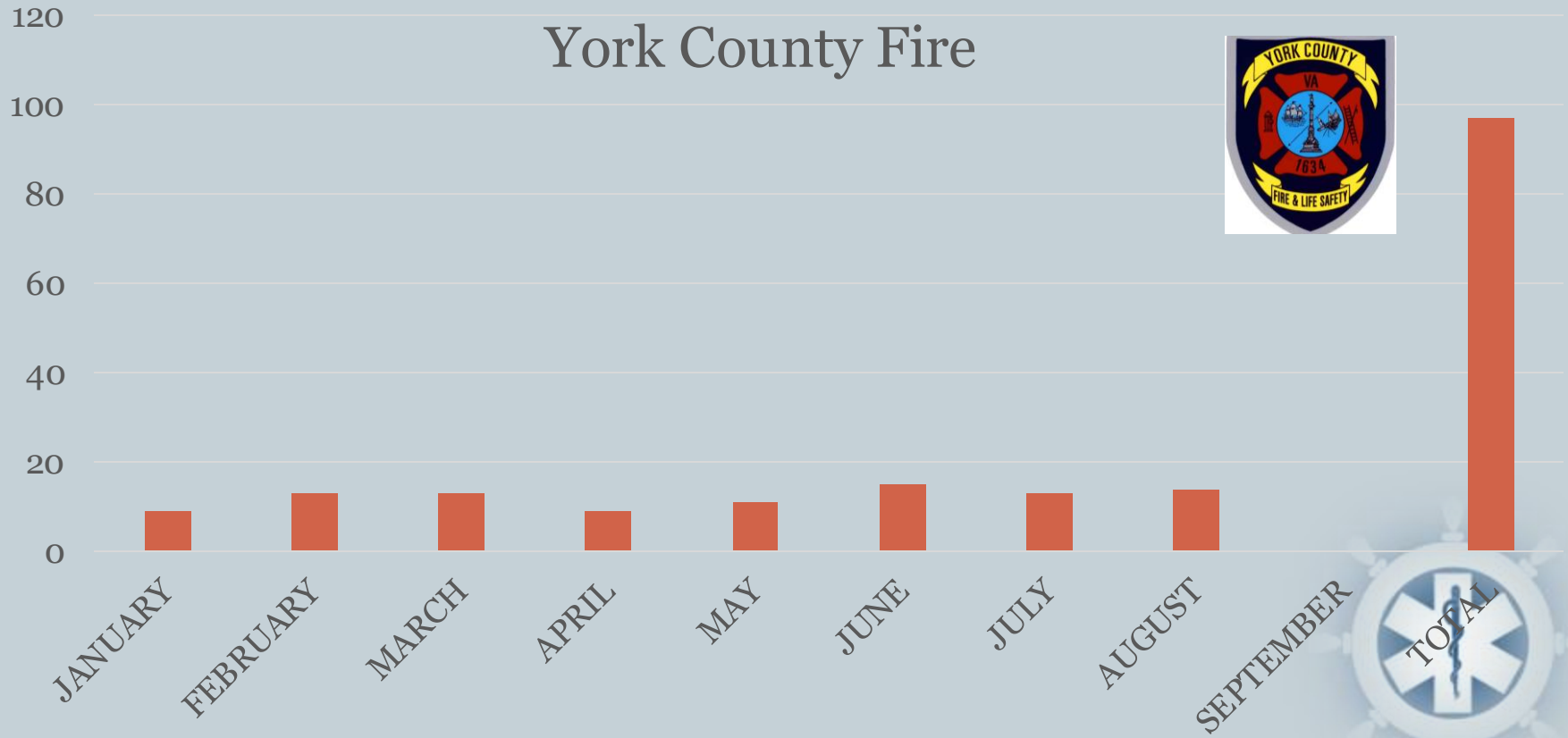


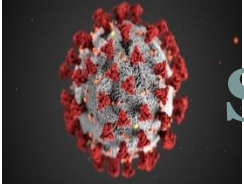


Stroke Transports York County

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York County Fire





Stroke Transports VCU/MCV Life Evac III

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- 2019: 238 Adult Neuro Charts, 10 specific as CVA
- 2020: 185 Adult Neuro Charts, 11 specific as CVA
 - (Jan-Aug 2020)
 1. COVID has not impacted stroke patients alone
 2. Inline filters added to intubations for all intubations in vent.
 3. N95 and goggles are worn on all patients.



Riverside Regional Medical Center— Stroke Program Coordinator

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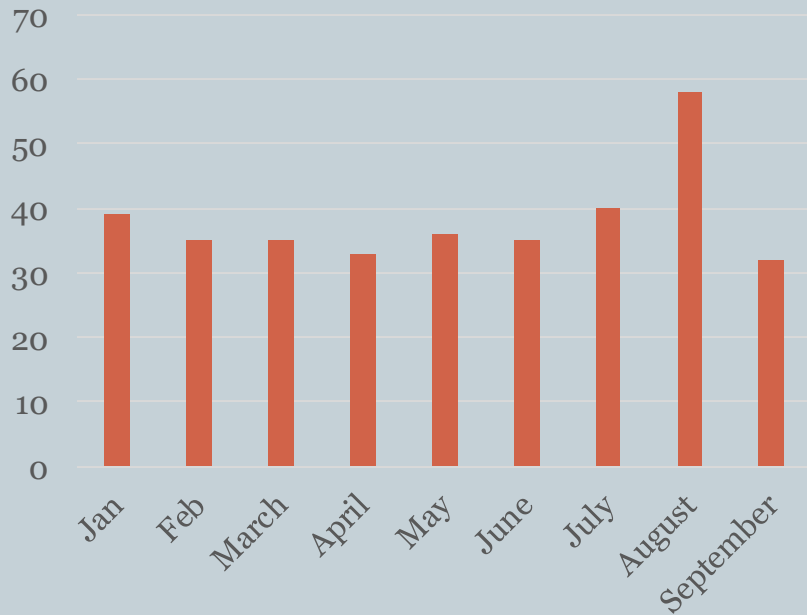
- Sara Watkins MSN, RN, SCRN
- Committee Assignments
 - PEMS Stroke Committee
 - Acute Stroke Treatment Strategies Workgroup
 - SVIN Global Regional Committee
 - Stroke Collaborative Committee



2019

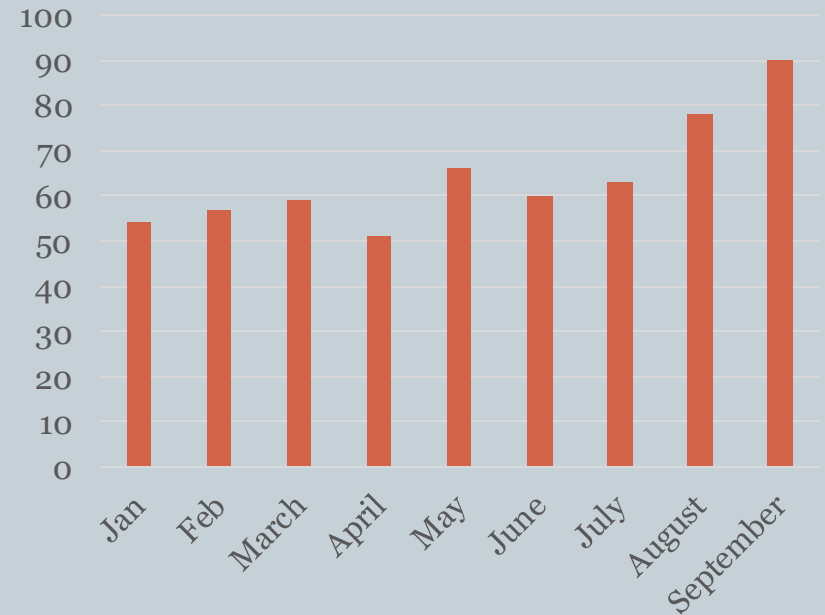
2020

2019 Brain Attack Volume



■ 2019 Brain Attack Volume

2020 Brain Attack Volume



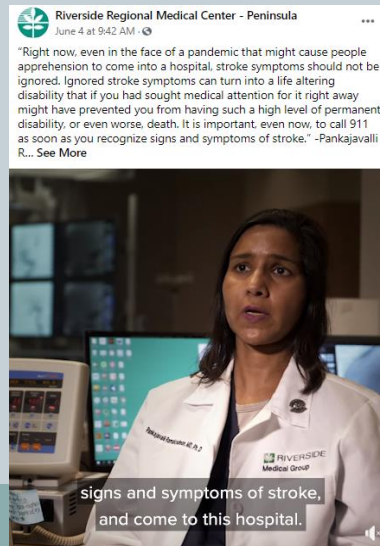
■ 2020 Brain Attack Volume

Volume During COVID-19

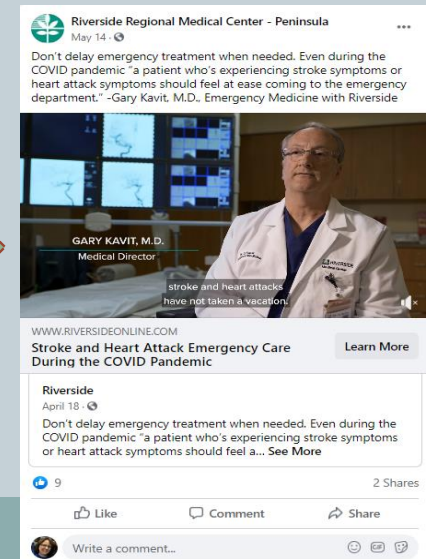
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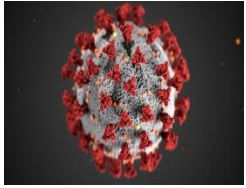
- Overall, did not decrease in overall brain attack volume
- Riverside did a lot of targeted education through social media
 - Stroke Signs and Symptoms
 - Safety of the hospital during COVID-19

4.2k
views in 7
weeks



7.5k
views in
8 weeks





EMS- Screening and Pre-alerts to Hospitals

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- Appropriate PPE
- Enter through hospital specific hot zones
- Each facility different
- At some point, all that enter facilities pre-screened
 - Temp
 - Questionnaires
 - Visitor policy changes

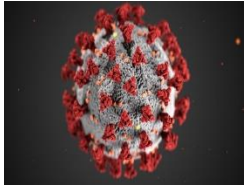


Protocol Changes at RRMC

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- Intubations in the field/ambulance bay/negative pressure rooms
- HEAR report to include COVID information
- No visitors- EMS had to collect important stroke information (phone numbers, LKW)
- Initial Screening Questions for EMS prior to entering the hospital
- Required PPE for potential COVID-19 patients





911- Prescreening and Pre-alerts to EMS

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PSAP Screening for COVID-19



Does the patient have a fever and symptoms of lower respiratory illness such as a cough or difficulty breathing?

NO

Follow normal EMS protocol.

YES

Has the patient traveled to, or had contact with individuals who have traveled to areas where the coronavirus is active in the United States or abroad, or had contact with someone who had a confirmed case of coronavirus?

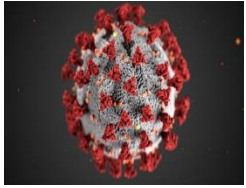
NO

YES

Instruct the individual to isolate themselves from close contact with others until EMS arrival, and alert responding EMS providers of potential for patient with possible exposure of COVID-19.

For additional information contact Richard.Troshak@VDH.Virginia.gov or go to: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>



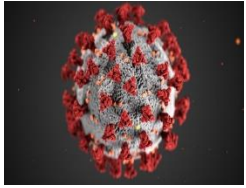


911- Prescreening and Pre-alerts to EMS

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- Notify EMS prescreen results
- Notify EMS past history phone/address positives
- Obtain historical data as VDH gives to 911 dispatchers

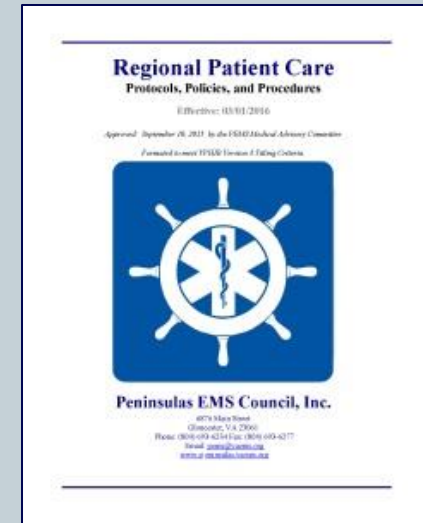


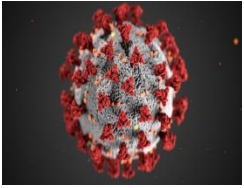


Protocol reinforcement/changes

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- PEMS Tiered EMS Response
- *PEMS COVID-19 Viral Respiratory Pathogen Exposure Reduction Procedure* provides guidance for providers when responding to suspected COVID-19 patients, cleaning the PEMS Medication Box, and decontaminating the ambulance.

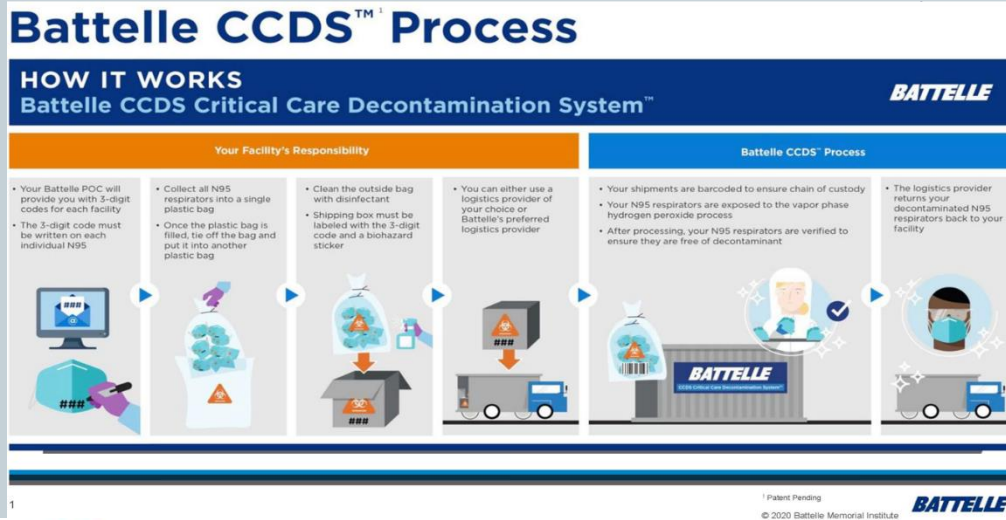




Protocol reinforcement/changes

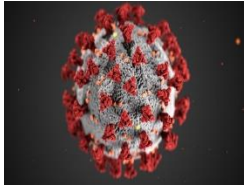
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- PEMS Medication Box Infection Control Directive
- The Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) has announced that the Battelle Decontamination System for N95 masks in Newport News



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Protocol reinforcement/changes

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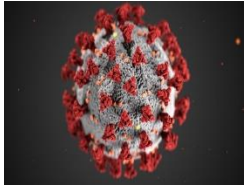
- **Ambulance Decon**
- *Patient barrier*
- *Aerosol decontamination*
 - *Example*



***Westmoreland Develops EMS
Aerosol Reduction Box and
aerosol decontamination sprayer***

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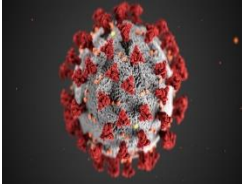


PPE

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- Shortages
- Reuse policies and procedures
- National Stockpile





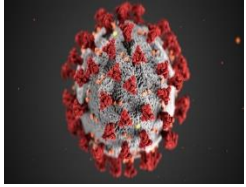
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QUESTIONS?

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Contact Me

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Special Thanks

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- James City County- Jason Sweet, Battalion Chief EMS
- Gloucester County Fire and EMS- Lewis Kerns, EMS Chief, Seth Craig, Gloucester EMS Educator and PEMS EMS Field Coordinator- Clinical Care Coordinator
- Riverside Regional Medical Center- Dr. Ramakrishnan, Neurosurgeon, RRMC; Sara Watkins- Stroke Coordinator RRMC
Dr. Kavit, Emergency Department Physician
- York County Fire & Life Safety- Melissa Doak, EMS Captain
- Westmoreland County
- VCU/MCV LifeEvac III- Tabitha Smithers, MSN, APRN, FNP--C
- Virginia Department of Health
- Virginia Office of EMS

