Improve patient turnaround time

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Airon MACS CPAP system

Alan Defosse, QI supervisor, paramedic and instructor/training program manager for Bristol Hospital EMS in Bristol, Connecticut, had been watching the progression of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) systems for several years before his agency purchased five Airon MACS CPAP units about a year ago, one for each of its ambulances.

"There had been multiple services that had progressed and pushed the CPAP unit for congestive heart failure patients," he says. "Our [hospital] guidelines also actually recommend it as a best practice and we'd been trying to get them for EMS medics for some time.

"We would bring patients in without a CPAP unit, but with medicine such as a nitroglycerine spray, or breathing treatment on occasion," he continues. "We would do basic care, then bring them into the ER where they would be put on a CPAP unit. We would see them turn around in 15 to 20 minutes. We thought if we could get this system in EMS and get it to patients earlier, we could turn them around even sooner."

Since purchasing the units for the ambulances, Defosse has noticed a marked improvement in patient turnaround. "They have really made a difference in patient outcomes," he says. "We've had multiple patients we've used the CPAP unit on who haven't had to be intubated because of the unit."

Defosse also appreciates the MACS unit's portability and ease of use. "It's simple to operate with minimal settings," he says. "The gauges are easy to use, and it's lightweight.



And since it's pneumatically driven, no power source is needed. It runs completely off of oxygen.

"We've even progressed to using the MACS unit, at lower pressure levels, for our chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients," he continues. "It opens them up and allows their breathing to be more efficient."

Airon Corporation has provided ventilators and CPAP devices to EMS and hospitals around the world for over 13 years. For information about their pNeuton ventilators with CPAP and MACS stand-alone CPAP system, visit AironUSA.com