



"The London Ambulance Service (LAS) believes it is important to keep in touch with GPs. We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter and we welcome your feedback."

November 2014

Cardiac arrest survival rate

People who have a cardiac arrest in the capital are more likely to survive than ever before, according to new figures released this month by the LAS:

- Almost a third (32.4%) of patients whose hearts stopped beating were resuscitated and discharged from hospital last year – the highest survival rate since records began 15 years ago.
- Last year, **bystanders attempted CPR** on 55.8% of cardiac arrest patients – up 4% from the year before.
- Figures also show that almost 1/4 of cardiac arrests happened in a public place and where a **defibrillator** was used promptly by members of the public the chances of survival increased.



Medical Director Fionna Moore said: "Not only are our staff doing an excellent job resuscitating and stabilising patients, but the public are helping to save lives on the streets of London too. We've seen more bystanders than ever before providing basic life support to cardiac arrest patients. Our call takers also do a great job giving instructions over the phone.

Fionna added: "This reflects the work we've been doing around the capital to teach Londoners **basic lifesaving skills** and I'd encourage everyone to learn this vital skill, as you never know when someone might need your help."

To read more, please visit our website: <http://tinyurl.com/oenfoh5>



Visit our website
Read more about the subjects covered :
www.londonambulance.nhs.uk

Winter Planning

Intelligent conveyancing involves an agreed maximum number of ambulances per hour arriving at each emergency department. It is designed to ease pressure and free up ambulances by reducing patient handover times.

The LAS introduced this scheme in Nov 2013 and it is key in dealing with increased demand over the winter months.

According to LAS data, from mid Jan to mid Feb 2014 patients were in the hands of hospital staff 2.5 minutes faster compared to the old system. This subsequently has a positive impact across the whole system.

Further details can be found on the HSJ website: <http://tinyurl.com/mjq5qb3>



Festive season - alcohol campaign



We have teamed up with the Mayor of London to help Londoners plan a fun and safe party this festive season. Every year we are called to help more and more people who have become unwell through drinking too much, especially in December.

Last December, the number of **alcohol related emergency calls** we took was up 6,194 – an increase of 5.2% from the year before.

We are encouraging Londoners to look after friends and colleagues when out celebrating and to plan in advance how they intend to get home at the end of the night. Other advice includes booking a party somewhere that serves meals/snacks or eating before going out, and to stick to **safer drinking levels**. These are all simple things, but hopefully it will free up ambulances for those with more serious illnesses and injuries.

If your workplace wants to join our campaign and share our messages, get in touch with us by calling the Communications Department on 020 7783 2286 or email communications@londonambulance.nhs.uk. We have campaign 'toolkits' available with statistics, social media ideas and press release templates.