ICE: IN CASE OF EMERGENCY…FOR VULNERABLE, SPECIAL PEOPLE

Prepared for GSHA Convention, 2016

By Jean Kropa, M.Ed, CCC, SLP No Disclosures.

**WHAT IS “ICE”?**

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY is Identification, which provides medical or Personal Health Information to First Responders, at the scene of a crisis.

\*They May Call for assistance after they Assess the situation,

\*Move victims to safety,

\*Care for the most injured first, probably Beginning with CPR/AED or Active bleeding.

The scene of an accident can be chaotic; a person with 2 forms of Identification increases the efficiency of the professionals’ work, and reduces the chances of Mistakes in treatments, especially to those who are un-conscious or confused (like with a TBI/ panic attack.

\* Having 2 or more forms of Medical Identification speeds contact with Caregivers/Medical Providers, reduces “wrong treatment” risks, in time-critical situations.

WHY HAVE “ICE” IDENTIFICATION?

“You never know when an accident may happen.”…quote from AAA car insurance.

“First Responders, at the scene of a crisis, will look for Medical Identification information First on the wrists or neck, then look in a wallet…” quote from Lauren’s Hope website, [www.LaurensHopeshop.com](http://www.LaurensHopeshop.com)

>Your clients/patients Need 2 or more Specific diagnoses- to qualify for Speech Language Intervention… (ALL of them).

Example: **MC is a competent, caring caregiver. She was going from one client to another one. She was driving in the fastest lane of an expressway. She did not expect the driver (2) of the Honda behind her to rear-end her car (1). His car messed up the rear of her car. Seconds later another car (3) hit #2. This caused cars to start spinning, into the next lane; Car #4 spun and hit the front of #1.**

**#1 ambulance to ER; Car totaled.**

**#2 was charged with Reckless Driving and following too closely.**

**#3 was drunk, so was taken to jail.**

**#4 driver seemed to be ok; minimal damage to truck.**

**#1: \*ER stopped MC’s bleeding, and closed the cut behind her Right ear.**

**\*A CAT scan indicated ”no broken bones”.**

**\*Follow-up MRIs indicated “Concussion” damage, with symptoms of headaches, dizziness, problems with sleep, slower executive function and physical movements, excess fatigue, some short-term memory problems, and post trauma amnesia about what happened…**

**\*NO One had looked at her Right knee, even though she was limping!**

**Eventually, 3** MRIs later indicated **knee ligaments injuries, which required surgery, followed by weeks of physical therapy.**

**Because a Driver’s license was her Only Identification, No one knew she is a Type 2 Diabetic!**

**Following the accident, MC turned down some “good paying” Caregiving opportunities; No one offered her a rental car, nor “easier”/ nearer work opportunities. Her income depends on how much time she can work; this usually requires heavy (patient) lifting. This accident has caused her physical limitations, frustration with insurance companies, and financial stress.**

**WHICH IMPAIRMENTS NEED In Case of Emergency Identification?**

**>Any one who has problems hearing, seeing, thinking, speaking, walking, ie:**

ALL *UN-Conscious* or Un-Response persons at Work, Travel or Sports Accident or Situation…

>Diagnoses including: \*Diabetes, Blood Pressure issues, Allergies, potential Medications interactions, Traumatic and/or acquired Brain problems, Academic and/or Mental or Behavior Diagnostic labels, and Work, Recreation or Travel accidents, Balance problems, Behavior problems…

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM FIRST RESPONDERS:

***IF A PERSON IS UNCONSIOUS OR UN-RESPONSIVE***

After receiving a 911 CALL, or request to assist the First Responders,

The Team with Emergency Medical Training will:

**\* Assess** the overall situation,

\* Check for moving the person(s) from Danger,

\* Check for consciousness, if no Verbal response or Nonverbal response, they will

Touch the Person for some response.

\*Early in the Assessment First Responders look for some form(s) of Identification. They look first at wrists and neck for a bracelet or necklace, with engraved information. Then they look for a wallet for Medical Identification.

\* They will Listen for and look for rising and falling of Chest as signs of breathing.

\* If none, they will check the mouth for airway blockage. If clear they will start mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. They will check if there is a pulse/ heartbeat; if needed, Both CPR and breathing can be done at the same time.

WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN PERSONAL HEALTH INFORMATION, ON DIFFERENT KINDS OF IDENTIFICATION?

“Chief” Culver Johnson’s answer is below:

To: Whom It May Concern

From: Culver Johnson, Chief of Police (Ret)

Cobb County Police Department

404-323-6016

Subject: Brain Injury Alert ID Card

Ms. Jean Kropa asked me to review the subject ID Card from a first responder perspective as well as provide input as to its’ implementation and design.

First, as a former responding officer, it is clear that the more information concerning a victim or suspect I have available, the more likely the incident will be quickly and correctly concluded. A good example of this is the role of medical ID Bracelets.

It is not unusual for an officer or corrections official to confuse a medical situation with an intentional act of unresponsiveness, hostility, drunkenness , anxiety or stress.

The correct implementation of such an ID card could lessen negative results from law enforcement contact. The following points should be considered:

1. ID Cards should be voluntary and contain only that information the holder wishes; however, to be useful it should contain: A Photo, name, holders reaction to stress if any, caregivers contact information.

2. Local and State first responder agencies must be made aware such information may exist and that holders will present it if possible.

3. Caregivers should be willing to provide information to a first responder 24 hours a day and also be prepared to go to the scene if requested.

4. Both caregivers and holders must clearly understand the possession of such a card will not necessarily overcome any act or omission on the part of the holder. It is simply a tool to assist all parties.

In closing, I support any such project such as this ID Card that may assist the holder, the general public and our first responders.

The following Check list, developed by “Chief” Johnson and Jean Kropa, CAN be put on a single, driver’s license sized paper, using front and back. This Check list provides Enough information to be most helpful:

Side One:

\* Diagnoses Alert

\* Name of person

\* A current (iPhone) Picture of person

\* Stress Behaviors

\* Precautions (to First Responders)

\* Emergency Contacts

\* Caregivers’ Names date of birth

\* Address Phone #s blood type

\* Medical Provider’s Name and Contact number

Side Two:

\*“More about me…” Any further information which is considered urgent

enough to include, like Allergies and Medications…

\*Web Resources for More Information about Diagnosis…

\*Phone ## for Persons to provide information about the Diagnosis,

and maybe the Card Holder…

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Contact Jean Kropa at [jean.kropa@gmail.com](mailto:jean.kropa@gmail.com) for details.

***WHO OFFERS THE IDEAS?* WHO INITIATES** AND Maybe..PLACES THE ORDER for the forms of Identification?

***YOU, the Caring and Competent Provider of Services…***

***!!!BECAUSE THIS IS A VOLUNTARY DECISION,***

***THE FAMILY/SURVIVOR PROVIDES THE INFORMATION TO BE IMPRINTED,***

***THE SCHOOL/ FACILLITY IS NOT LEGALLY LIABLE FOR ANYTHING RELATED TO THE ID FORM. !!!***

***WHO PROVIDES THE INFORMATION?***

***The person wearing the identification or the Caregivers;***

***they voluntarily provide information, and are the Only***

***persons liable for the Identification. They are also probably the party who pays.***

***How are the Medical Identifications evaluated, accessed, and delivered?***

***>The Professionals have training to Evaluate the client/patient’s skills and abilities, compare those with the kinds of medical identifications, and make recommendations to the client/patient and-or caregivers.***

***See the Chart in Attachment One.***

>The SLP/TEACHER, CAREGIVERS or high functioning SURVIVOR can probably DOWNLOAD the “paper” forms; then type information on a computer, or write on the down-loaded card.

>The SLP, TEACHER or CAREGIVER may have to place online orders for dog-tags, jewelry (bracelets, anklets, necklaces,) Shoe-tags, GPS/USB Port bands or devices.

Reviewing orders for accuracy is recommended.

>See the Chart in Attachment Two.

***CONCLUSIONS:***

***The Speech-Language Pathologist and Audiologist are professionally trained persons, who are in a unique position to Know the skills and deficits of each patient or client.***

***THEREFORE, TO ENHANCE THE SAFETY AND***

***In Case of Emergency MEDICAL CARE OF SPECIAL AND VULNERABLE CLIENTS OR PATIENTS,***

***IT IS ETHICAL:***

***\*TO ACCESS THE SKILLS, AND LIMITATIONS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL,***

**\**FACILLITATE THE SELECTION AND ACQUISITION OF THE BEST 2 OR MORE FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION,***

***\*TO RESPECT THEIR PERSONAL SKILLS, DEFICITS, AND FINANCIAL STATUS.***

**Contact information:**

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**Attachment Two**

**KINDS OF IDENTIFICATIONS, SOURCES AND COSTS OF MEDICAL IDENTIFICATION FORMS**:

***CARDS (FREE):*** in wallet/purse/fanny pack/phone cases with a pouch/storage.

>These May be in a new wallet or coin-purse.

> Sometimes sent as “back-up” ID with orders of jewelry (wrist/ankle bands, *wrist/ankle/necklace ID Tags), GPS or USB Port devices.*

> DOWN-LOADED FROM:

\* Brain Injury Peer Visitor Program

At [www.braininjurypeervisitor.org](http://www.braininjurypeervisitor.org)

\* Brain Injury Association of Georgia

At [www.braininjurygeorgia.org](http://www.braininjurygeorgia.org)

\* Driver’s License-like form, developed by “Chief” Johnson and Jean Kropa.

At jean.kropa@gmail.com

***FORMS/ KINDS OF MEDICAL IDENTIFICATIONS FOUND***

***See Attachment TWO for details.***

***Cards***

***Jewelry- wrist bands, necklaces, Dogtags…***

***GPS devices… USB Port- bracelets…***

***iPhone- Phone Apps… cell phone cases with pouches…***

***Arm/leg band/pouches***

ATTACHMENT TWO

FORMS/ KINDS OF MEDICAL IDENTIFICATIONS FOUND

***JEWELRY: Ranges from $30 up to $200+***

depending on the intricacy of the *Bracelet/Necklace/Chain*/ “stones” strung in the design. Darkened contrast in engraving recommended.

JEWELRY:  **may be coordinated with interchangeable decorative wrist**

**Bracelets, others are braided materials, or “Cool”Jelly Bands,**

**Simple Chains, or expansion bands, connected to a metallic, engraved information“tag”…or embedded into slots/circles built into the “band”.**

**These range from $30 – $150+ The selections ranges include**

**Women, Men, Girls and Boys…sized to fit Toddlers – Men.**

BRACELETS:

*Lauren’s Hope*

[*www.LaurensHopeshop.com*](http://www.LaurensHopeshop.com)

Up to 5 lines (20 spaces) of engraving; better with

Dark contrast in text. Cost from $40 and up,

Depending on the intricacy of chain/jeweled bracelet.

Available for Men/Women/Boys/Girls styles,

Dogtags for neck chains, ankle bands, shoes, etc.

Their Band with USB Port is new. Wallet card included.

*www.RoadID.com*

Bracelets/cuffs, necklaces, dog tags, shoe/leg IDs,

Pouches (arm, cellphones), GPS watches, bands with

USB Port; Some have an Optional

Interactive mode, with full medical history-

with a $/month. For Men, Women, Children various

ages. *Children’s Jelly/ Silicone bracelets*, made tough,

start about $40. Wallet card included.

Cost $30-50.

*Whatever Works*

[*www.Whateverworks.com*](http://www.Whateverworks.com)

EPID-ID Emergency ID Bracelet, Item KF5709

Adjustable band bracelet with USB Port, compatible

With PC or Mac. (256 MB. Load/update medical

Information. Cost 39.99.

[*www.medids.com*](http://www.medids.com) *has watch bands, watchband*

alerts and ID Tags…

[*www.LifeAlertHelp.com*](http://www.LifeAlertHelp.com) may be right for Older adults

or younger adults with Significant Impairments.

GPS CAPABILITIES: **WATCHES with GPS capabilities are HERE!**

**Targeting Runners, Hikers, Campers, Sports enthusiasts, and ALZHEIMER’S-**

**DEMENTIA PATIENTS, Smart phones and various other devices are available. I Tracking can be added to a Smart Phone, so that both the runner and another person can track the distance into a “Run”.**

**If you Enter “watch with GPS”, get choices from nearly 200,000 entries. Some top companies include: Soleus, Garmin, Timex, Fitbit, Nike, REI, Keruve,**

**SuuntoAmbit, and Polar, which make GPS watches. This might be a good option for ALZHEIMER’S-DEMENTIA PATIENTS TO WEAR. Apps on a SMART PHONE covers Some of the functions, IF the device is important enough to keep track of. For a GPS ID Bracelet with locator or a GPS ID Watch, Keruve targets Alzheimers (at** [www.Keruve.com](http://www.Keruve.com) or *Call 1-352-289-4743)*

*PHONE OR iPhone TECHNOLOGY:* ***MAKERS OF SMART PHONES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPING APPS,***

**to contain Personal Health Information. While few are listed, the Apps tend to be**

**developed by the specific company, to work on their specific models;**

**best results may come from contacts with the phone manufacturer.**

**With technological advances, these will be improving.**

**These work best with the students who have their own**

**Phones, (young to older teens, and young adults).**

**This will be sure to attract those whom we admire**

**as GEEKS among us.**

*> Apple iPhone 6 or newer already has a built-in App*

For ID information. The Apple watch may also.

> Other cell phones or androids have apps, which can be

Bought and downloaded. These will be specific to the

Device.

>Contact : The *Tools for Life*, [www.gatfl.gatech.edu](http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu) , or

[www.gatfl.org](http://www.gatfl.org) , has *Thousands* of apps for everything,

(if not, they will create a new app) to solve Any problem,

especially if it helps a person with a disability.

***PHONE CASE – WALLETS OR WITH STORAGE OR* POUCHES**

**These are specific to a specific Brand of Phone;**

**Cost: $20 - $75. This is very useful**

**> For the Runners, those who frequent a Gym/ Fitness facility,**

**> For the women who want to Lighten the Load of a purse,**

**or to be less of a Target in a crowd/ when shopping.**

*Phone Cases with pouches/storage/pockets* have spaces

For inserting 2-4 papers (Driver’s license, Insurance card,

ID card, a few bills of money, etc). These flip, slide up or

Down, according to the specific case for a specific model.

Cost $20-80.

You can search online for generic cases at these/others:

[www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com)

[www.mashable.com](http://www.mashable.com)

[www.Islimphonewallet.com](http://www.Islimphonewallet.com)

[www.alibaba.com](http://www.alibaba.com)

[*www.eholster.com*](http://www.eholster.com)(double pouches for a small tablet pouch

or put on a Running Belt…$20)

[www.dhgate.com](http://www.dhgate.com) (for arm bands for phone/wallet)

[www.bccasecom](http://www.bccasecom) -Beyond Cell Protective Inc.-