

FAST-MAG Times

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FAST-MAG: 10% and Counting . . . *Los Angeles Paramedics Enroll 186 Patients*

Thanks to countywide efforts by paramedics, FAST-MAG achieved 10% of its enrollment goal with the 130th enrollment on April 23, 2006. Well on the way to 20% with 186 patients enrolled as of press time, FAST-MAG has added numerous “firsts” in recent months. Monday, April 24 was a banner enrollment day with five patients in 24 hours. In the time period from February 28 to March 18, 19 patients were enrolled in 19 days, and March became our highest enrolling month with a record 27 patients. 106 patients have now completed their 90-day participation in the trial, the time at which recovery for most stroke patients has reached a plateau.

FAST-MAG hospital participation now stands at 37, with several more expected to go “live” this summer.

At press time, St. Francis Medical Center, Little Company of Mary Hospital-Torrance, and Henry Mayo Newhall are tied for the lead in enrollments with a total of 12 each. UCLA Westwood has received 11 patients, with Methodist Hospital of Southern California, Providence St. Joseph’s Medical Center, and Sherman Oaks Medical Center tied at



Los Angeles County FD Station 111



Home of Santa Monica FD Engine 4

nine patients each.

The high-achieving paramedics at Los Angeles County FD Rescue Squad 111 in Saugus, and Santa Monica Fire Department Engine 4, share the record for highest enrolling rescue with five patients each.

At four enrollments each, Los Angeles City RAs 37 (Westwood), 59 (West Los Angeles), 89 (North Hollywood), and 102 (Van Nuys), LA County FD 107 (Canyon Country), and West Covina RA 2 are tied for second place.

We also want to sincerely acknowledge and thank the hundreds of paramedics who have attempted to enroll patients who were ultimately ineligible for the study. Your efforts are vital to finding those who are eligible and turning the tide on stroke outcomes. We track each attempted enrollment and are gratified by your perseverance.

Our sincere thanks, again, to all the paramedics, nurses, and physicians who are helping make stroke research history.

Fire Department Profiles

Los Angeles Fire Department

With a total of 55 patients enrolled, the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) leads the county in the number of FAST-MAG patients enrolled. With 103 neighborhood fire stations, covering 470 square miles, and serving a population of 4 million, LAFD is the largest fire department in Southern California.

LAFD was founded in the early 1900's when it was a service provided by the Los Angeles Police Department. In 1970, LAFD was among the first fire departments in the nation to add paramedics, and is currently home to 750 paramedics and 2,700 EMTs. These EMS personnel staff 134 Advanced Life Support (ALS) vehicles, including an air ambulance. The 223 paramedics on duty each day help re-

spond to the average 965 calls that come into the agency daily, 82% of which require emergency medical services, with 70% of those requiring ALS skills. LAFD averages nearly 13 stroke incidents per day, or 1.6% of all EMS incidents.

With their assistance in the FAST-MAG pilot trial from 2000-2002, LAFD paramedics played a pivotal role in the launch of the current landmark study, and were among the first on board with FAST-MAG when LA County paramedics went through FAST-MAG training in mid-2004.



LAFD Headquarters

“It’s a pleasure to take part in this project,” says Chief Daniel R. McCarthy, Battalion Chief in charge of EMS for LAFD. “It is a great opportunity to further stroke research and we are hopeful of some benefit in the end.”

Four LAFD rescue ambulances are tied for second place in the quest for highest enrollments.

“The paramedics in the field are very supportive,” says McCarthy. “Most all have had a mother, dad, or other relative who has had a stroke and are anxious to find better ways to care for them.”

Meet Your Nurse Coordinator Jennifer Butel, RN

Jennifer Butel, RN was one of the first nurses hired for FAST-MAG, in August, 2003. After graduating from Mount St. Mary’s College, Jennifer went directly to an Emergency Department training program at California Hospital Medical Center where she stayed until coming to FAST-MAG.

Likely many of the FAST-MAG nurses, Jennifer was drawn to the ideas of early intervention and pre-hospital research. “As emergency departments are becoming more impacted by a variety of social issues, it seems that field interventions are becoming critical to patient outcomes,” she says.



Jennifer is Site Coordinator for West Hills Hospital and Medical Center, California Hospital Medical Center, and both the Encino and Tarzana campuses of Encino Tarzana Medical Center. She is FAST-MAG liaison to Los Angeles Fire Department Battalions 11 and 17, as well as Los Angeles County Fire Department Battalion 5.

One of Jennifer’s favorite parts of the job is the opportunity to work with paramedics. “I enjoy working with the paramedics and appreciate all of the hard work they do to make this study successful,” she says. “They have really

stepped up to the many additional responsibilities that are expected of them. We know that the world is looking at our trial and the Los Angeles County paramedics to see if we can pull this off. They are doing an exceptional job.”

Jennifer says that the possible outcomes of the study are one of the major draws to the job. “I love being part of a job that gives me an opportunity to be involved in something that could impact stroke care worldwide,” she says.

FAST-MAG Factoid

Every hour an ischemic stroke goes untreated, 1.9 million neurons are lost to the brain.

PARAMEDIC HALL OF FAME

Date	Paramedics	Agency/Unit
8/18/2005	John Keys Gary Johnson Bruce Young Joe Flores	LAFD RA 69 & Eng 23
9/1/2005	Lance Menier George Corona	Glendale RA 26
9/5/2005	Richard Kramer Dan Caldwell	Santa Monica Eng 1
9/6/2005	Jeremy Sanchez Steven Elmgren	Monrovia FD 102
9/16/2005	Scott Schweitzer Ted Hemphill	Burbank RA 13
9/23/2005	Anthony Akins Brian Davy	LA County RS 33
9/27/2005	Chris Malaspino Gabriel Vaca	Glendale RA 25
9/29/2005	Matt Lieberman Brian Scott Brian Grebbien Kim Bridges Greg Dale	Hermosa Beach RA 11
10/8/2005	AJ Cleveland Russ Arcebido Edward Diaz	LA County RS 90
10/11/2005	Jeff Furrows Rich Kramer	Santa Monica RA 3
10/12/2005	Mike McGrady Glen Kratkin	LAFD RA 91
10/13/2005	Robert Smith Thomas Stanfill	Santa Monica RA 5
10/23/2005	Kevin Laidlaw Greg Short	LA County RS 107
10/25/2005	Truman Van Dyke Art Contreres George Ostrovsky	LAFD RA 23
10/25/2005	Frank Garcia Ryan Chapin	LA County RS 111
10/26/2005	Steven Steeba Ronnie Lujan Bill Mansour Eric Espinoza	West Covina RA 2
10/27/2005	Steve Stern Nick Durepo	LAFD RA 37
10/28/2005	Jeff Arnold Cameron Langhans	LAFD RA 102
10/29/2005	Dane Broesel Scott Pike	LAFD RA 39
10/29/2005	Luis Gutierrez Aaron Girvan	LAFD RA 89
10/29/2005	Mike Woll Ray Schiller	LAFD RA 105
10/31/2005	Glen Kratkin Carl Lanier	LAFD RA 91
11/7/2005	Rick Renteria Martin Guerrero	LAFD RA 12
11/15/2005	Darnell Johnson Nicole Olsen	Compton FD 441
11/17/2005	Tony Parra Jim Owen Shayne Scone	Long Beach FD RA 11
11/17/2005	Ken Anderson Erik Garcia	Burbank RA 11
11/19/2005	Donald Dillenberger Jim Callison	LAFD RA 73
11/21/2005	Darren Sangren Richard Pryor	LA County RS 167
11/21/2005	Vince Foster Danny Elizarraras	LAFD RA 10
11/23/2005	Chris Stanton Jeff Arnold Orin Saunders	LAFD RA 102
11/23/2005	Scott Anderson Cynthia Josselyn	LAFD RA 104
11/24/2005	Patrick Leonard Scot Lazar	LAFD RA 21
11/25/2005	Falo Tiumalo Ken Wigchert Kevin Johnson	LAFD RA 51

11/27/2005	Frank Garcia Ken Johnstone Pat Armour	LA County RS 111
11/28/2005	Joe Coory Craig Larson	Glendale RA 29
12/6/2005	Christopher Sagara Andy Zimbeck	LAFD RA 27
12/8/2005	Kelly Abadie Brian Keeney	LA County RS 135
12/9/2005	Tyler Wade Rudy Mejia	Manhattan Beach RA 21
12/18/2005	Russel Wilcox Michael White	San Marino RA 91
12/19/2005	Michael Delabarcelona Steven Phillips	LAFD RA 71
12/23/2005	Chris Bohannon Sean Moffett	Downey RA 641
12/24/2005	Jose Perez Cameron Langhans	LAFD RA 102
12/24/2005	Bruce Alpern Gary Reichman	LA County RS 111
12/28/2005	Donald Herrera Frederick Carter	LA County RS 92
12/29/2005	Chad Smith David Poirier	Redondo Beach RA 62
12/29/2005	Kevin Coffelt Greg Allen	Redondo Beach RA 61
1/3/2006	Nick Duerpo Jason Shelton	LAFD RA 37
1/5/2006	William Perez Chris Smith	Torrance RS 94
1/7/2006	Wish to remain anonymous – They do not want to buy ice cream...	Manhattan Beach RA 21
1/9/2006	Christopher Sagura Miguel Rodriguez	LAFD RA 27
1/17/2006	Chris Siok Raphael Raygoza	LA County RS 163
1/19/2006	Ivan Verastegui Jason Velez	Compton RA 442
1/23/2006	Thomas Perry Tom Federico	LA County RS 73
1/24/2006	Bennett Rogers Mark Flot	LAFD RA 5
1/24/2006	Joseph Scamardo Eric Gardner	LAFD RA 73
1/28/2006	Barry Bell Fidel Nieto	LA County RS 54
2/3/2006	Jason Robles Hardy Mosley Andy Robertson	West Covina RA 2
2/10/2006	Guadalupe Munoz Barry Bell	LA County RS 54
2/10/2006	Brian Nassour Morgan Englund	LAFD RA 89
2/19/2006	Tim Roarty Nick Durepo	LAFD RA 37
2/20/2006	Michael Reiger Ryan Guthrie PM Intern: Kevin Jacobs	LAFD RA 89
2/20/2006	Jason Robles Hardy Mosley Mike Porter	West Covina RA 2
2/22/2006	Jose Moya Brian Quigley	LAFD RA 239
2/24/2006	Alan Anolin David Christian	LA County RS 30
2/28/2006	Scott Lazar Patrick Leonard	LAFD RA 21
3/1/2006	Daniel Dunn Cliff Snider Shawn Ward	South Pasadena RA 81
3/2/2006	John Nevandro Sean Van Sluis Nick Jones	Santa Monica Engine 3
3/3/2006	Shawn Agnew Jason Moore	LAFD RA 47
3/3/2006	Robert Miller Robert Betancourt	LAFD RA 93
3/4/2006	Greg Short Kevin Laidlaw	LA County RS 107

PARAMEDIC HALL OF FAME

3/4/2006	David Johnson Rob Ladd Florin Sarbu	LAFD RA 10
3/4/2006	Andy Manzano Joseph Chen	LA County RS 90
3/7/2006	Steven Crocker Gene Unruh	Montebello RS 53
3/7/2006	Beth Decoteau Lee Cabrera	Arcadia RA 106
3/12/2006	Paramedic Kafoury Paramedic Valdes	Long Beach RA 11
3/13/2006	Ben Sheen Eric Downing	LA County RS 37
3/13/2006	Dennis Baker Stanley Croom	LAFD RA 21
3/13/2006	Michael McGrady Benjamin Guzman	LAFD RA 91
3/14/2006	Milo Garcia Robert Smith	Santa Monica RA 9
3/17/2006	Brian Reifschneider Brent Ruff	LAFD RA 84
3/18/2006	Peter Fink Bryan Lagarce	West Covina RA 2
3/18/2006	Allen Bursey Rich Pryor	LA County RS 47
3/18/2006	Gregory Barbera Rick Lestelle	LAFD RA 38
3/20/2006	Matt Siddall Rob Artle	LA County RS 39
3/23/2006	Kevin Kemp Carl Lanier Eric Amis (From AU 51)	LAFD RA 95
3/23/2006	Matt Coomes Frank Culhno Jason Patao	Downey RA 641
3/25/2006	Matt Stratton Ryan Carlos Josh Burton	LAFD RA 60 & Eng. 78
3/27/2006	Robert Sawai Joel Bonomi	Torrance RS 93
3/27/2006	Ron Cavataio Joe Manzo	LAFD RA 78
3/30/2006	Tom Chamberlain Robert Gocke	LA County RS 84
3/31/2006	Reggie Johnson Dave Christian	LA County RS 30
4/3/2006	Joel Bonomi Barry Santley	Torrance RS 93
4/5/2006	Tony Tarango Scott Martinez	El Segundo RA 32
4/7/2006	Mark McCurdy Jeff Powell	LA County RS 28
4/7/2006	Kevin Greenway Dave Benson Sam Dominick	La Verne RA 61
4/7/2006	Tom Federico Randy Perry	LA County RS 73
4/8/2006	Mark Perine	LAFD RA 10
4/8/2006	Anthony Woods Robert Seals Trainee: April Campos	LA County RS 11
4/13/2006	Juan Fregoso Steven Poelstra	Culver City RA 1
4/13/2006	Kevin Greenway Dave Benson Sam Dominick	La Verne RA 61
4/19/2006	Phillip Rivera Frank Garcia	LA County RS 111
4/20/2006	Danny Riley Kyle Boyd	LA County RS 135
4/23/2006	Jaime Morris Gina Thomas	Pasadena RA 36
4/24/2006	Hans Enyedi Damon Lawrence	LAFD RA 79
4/24/2006	Russel Poelstra Tim Cummings	Torrance RA 94
4/24/2006	Robert Sonek Mark Lees	El Segundo RA 31
4/24/2006	Charles Micallef Dan Moore	LAFD RA 94

4/24/2006	Matthew D. Carter David T. Bowden	LAFD RA 33
4/25/2006	John Cabeza de Vaca Matt Bandy	Redondo Beach RA 61
4/27/2006	Steve Fernandez Owen Evans Melissa Ziehl	Redondo Beach RA 62
4/28/2006	Andy Manzano Russ Arcebido Trainee: Bob Viers	LA County RS 90
4/28/2006	Mike Buchs Brent Nunez	Torrance RA 96
4/30/2006	Mike McElvaney Matt Wesner	Santa Monica RS 4
4/30/2006	Mike McElvaney Matt Wesner	Santa Monica RS 4
5/3/2006	Jeff Furrows A. Wells	Santa Monica RS 8
5/4/2006	John Keys Gary Johnson	LAFD RA 69
5/6/2006	Jose Cortes Ben Franscona	LA County RS 49
5/13/2006	Greg Lewis Idefonso Felix	LAFD RA 64
5/23/2006	Thomas Lawson Eras Noel	LA County RS 19
5/26/2006	Russel Arentzoff Guadalupe Flores	LAFD RA 19
5/27/2006	Steve Stern Reynaldo Husband	LAFD RA 59
5/27/2006	Michael Botenhagen Jim Berklite	LA County RS 119
5/29/2006	Allan Anolin Joel Entreken Capt. Rick Alpert	LA County RS 30
5/29/2006	Fernando Vasquez Brian Simon	LAFD RA 88
5/30/2006	Van Bergquist Erik Morda	LAFD RA 85
5/30/2006	Mike Gorman Matt Siddall	LA County RS 39
6/3/2006	Randall Glancy Brian Sacramone	LAFD RA 239
6/9/2006	Brian Davy Rene Wilson-Hall	LA County RS 47
6/11/2006	Mike Brown Andy Robertson Brian-Scott Gilmore	West Covina RA 1
6/17/2006	Jason Cameron Frank Garrido	LA County RS 161
6/23/2006	David Chavez Daniel Albarran	LAFD RA 9
6/23/2006	John Cobos Art Garcia Rich Atwood (station 103)	LA County RS 40
6/23/2006	Chris Morrow C. Smith	Torrance FD RA 93
6/24/2006	Puvadol Sangthongkum James Callison	LAFD RA 73
6/25/2006	Anthony Ferro Dan Burkhart	LAFD RA 98
6/25/2006	Gred Godfrey	Glendale FD RA 26
6/26/2006	Sunny Sotelo Manny Sampang	LA County RS 40
7/4/2006	Charles Boswell Mike Hartley	LAFD RA 59
7/7/2006	Antonio Soto Eddie Diaz	LA County RS 38
7/9/2006	Steven Good William Ardizzone Joyce Vandeweid (station 11)	Long Beach RA 19
7/12/2006	John Carlton Charles Micallef	LAFD RA 68
7/14/2006	Gred Lafleur Joe Gomez Patrick McGowen	West Covina RA 2
7/16/2006	Mike Smotrys Carlos Lopez	Hermosa Beach FD RA 11
7/17/2006	Mark Flot Bennett Rogers	LAFD RA 5

FAST-MAG FEEDBACK FORUM

Q. How many of the patients that paramedics screen are not enrolled?

A. About 40% of calls to the FAST-MAG enrolling phone line result in a full enrollment, while 60% result in a non-enrollment.

To date, the most common reason for non-enrollment (19%) is that the last known

well time was ultimately found to be more than two hours. The second most common reason (17%) is that the patient was not competent to consent and no family member was available. Other common reasons are rapidly improving neurological deficits (9.8%), pre-existing conditions that might confuse assessment of the new deficit (8.8%), and systolic blood pressure greater than 220 mmHg (6.7%). Both fully enrolled patients, and screened not enrolled patients, contribute very important data to the study.

Q. Why can't paramedics consent the patients themselves?

A. Federal regulations require that the individual obtaining consent be able to answer all research questions that a patient/family member may have.

Despite the move towards more autonomy in prehospital care, con-

senting patients for research requires extensive federal training and certification in ethical and legal aspects of biomedical research. It is not realistic to require this certification of all paramedics in Los Angeles.

Q. When do we find out if the magnesium is working?

FAST-MAG Quick Quiz:

The study drug kit should be opened when:

- 1) You have completed the assessment and found the patient to be LAPSS positive.
- 2) When the patient agrees to be in the study.
- 3) **After the FAST-MAG doctor has spoken with the patient and told you to open the kit.**
- 4) When you get the order from the base station.
- 5) On ED arrival, when the ED doctor says to start the drug.

No. 3 is the correct answer!

A. Although all physicians, nurses, paramedics are blinded to study findings until the trial ends, the National Institutes of Health (the study sponsor), has appointed an independent group of stroke experts to monitor the study results. This group is called the Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB). Data will be unblinded and examined after all 1298 patients have been enrolled. 1298 is the number of patients needed to prove significant benefit.

During the study, however, the DSMB will be examining unblinded data at 3 interim times: after 25% (325 patients), 50% (649 patients), and 75% (974 patients) have been enrolled. If a definite answer regarding whether magnesium is beneficial is found at one of these interim analyses, the DSMB is empowered to stop the trial early so that the results can be reported as quickly as possible.

UPDATES

Enrollments

186

FAST-MAG Hospitals

The hospitals listed below are currently open for enrollment of FAST-MAG patients

Antelope Valley Hospital
 Brotman Medical Center
 California Hospital Medical Center
 Cedars Sinai Medical Center
 CFRMC - Marina Campus
 CFRMC - Memorial Campus
 Encino-Tarzana-Encino Campus
 Encino-Tarzana-Tarzana Campus
 Glendale Adventist Medical Center
 Good Samaritan Hospital
 Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital
 Huntington Memorial Hospital
 Kaiser--Woodland Hills Hospital
 LAC--Harbor Medical Center
 LAC--Olive View Medical Center
 LAC--USC Medical Center
 Lakewood Regional Medical Center
 Little Company of Mary--San Pedro
 Little Company of Mary--Torrance
 Long Beach Memorial Medical Center
 Methodist Hospital of So. California
 Northridge Hospital Medical Center
 Pomona Valley Hospital
 Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital
 Providence Holy Cross Medical Center
 Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center
 San Dimas Community Hospital
 Santa Monica--UCLA Medical Center
 Sherman Oaks Hospital
 St. Francis Medical Center
 St. John's Hospital & Health Center
 Torrance Memorial Medical Center
 UCLA (Westwood) Medical Center
 Verdugo Hills Hospital
 West Hills Hospital & Medical Center
 White Memorial Medical Center
 Whittier Hospital Medical Center-AHMC

FAST-MAG Factoid

Did you know?

For every hour an ischemic stroke goes untreated, the brain ages 3.6 years.

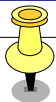
FAST-MAG CLINICAL TRIAL COORDINATING CENTER

1072 Gayley Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Visit FAST-MAG on the web!
www.fastmag.info

FAST-MAG

“Because Time is Brain”



Thanks To You . . .

Based on feedback from paramedics, the following changes have been made to FAST-MAG procedures:

1. FAST-MAG enrolling doctors now carry a separate phone dedicated solely to FAST-MAG, enabling them to identify themselves clearly when answering a FAST-MAG call.
2. FAST-MAG now provides a compact, dark blue binder folder that holds the study drug kit, dividers with clearly labeled consents, the Quick Guide, and LAPSS forms.

What is FAST-MAG?

FAST-MAG (Field Administration of Stroke Therapy - Magnesium) is a clinical research study designed to test whether field administration of IV magnesium sulfate by paramedics improves the outcome of stroke patients when given within two hours of stroke symptom onset.

Patients who meet study criteria and in whom informed consent to participate is obtained by the study doctor, will receive a small infusion of FAST-MAG study drug (magnesium or placebo) which must be started in the field, followed by a 24-hour infusion of study drug in the hospital. Patients will be assessed by FAST-MAG key personnel at designated points over the three months following their stroke.

The study will enroll 1298 patients, involve up to 70 Los Angeles County hospitals, and all paramedics in 27 provider agencies. The study is funded by the National Institutes of Health, and approved by the California Statewide EMS Authority and the Los Angeles County EMS Agency.