

Preparing Leaders, Saving Lives

The Front Lines of Emergency Medicine



Denver Health Emergency Medicine Department — 2009

The Denver Health Department of Emergency Medicine is a vital component of the Rocky Mountain Regional Trauma Center. With more than 50,000 Emergency Department encounters each year, the doctors, nurses, and other frontline staff truly believe that five little words could save your life:

“Take me to Denver Health.”



Emergency Medicine at Denver Health

Emergency medicine as a specialty began in the late 1970s. Prior to 1973, the practice of emergency medicine was not well defined — it needed a place to really put it on the map — that place was Denver Health.

In 1973, a decision was made to establish the Emergency Medicine Residency Program based at Denver Health, because the emergency department was developing a reputation of providing high level care to those in crisis.

In 1977, Dr. Peter Rosen, one of the founding fathers of Emergency Medicine, moved to Colorado to assume the role of Director of Emergency Medicine at Denver Health, a new position created just for him. Dr. Rosen recruited a staff of six full-time Emergency Department physicians who began to provide specialized care 24/7.

In 1985, the Emergency Medicine Residency Program expanded, training residents to provide the highest quality care, and giving them the skills to run any emergency department in the country.

Currently, the Emergency Medicine Residency Program, one of the best in the country, is a four-year program with 14 residents in each of four years.

**50,000 + ED
Patient Encounters**

**23,500 + ED
Patient Admissions**

Concurrent with the development of the Emergency Medicine Residency Program, the Emergency Medical Services pre-hospital, paramedic care system evolved at Denver Health. Today, the Denver Health Paramedic Division employs more than 250 paramedics, and has a fleet of more than 30 ambulances that patrol the streets of the City and County of Denver caring for those in need of these highly skilled medical professionals.

Denver Health has always been on the forefront of emerging technology and innovation, and the 35 years of commitment to caring for all in the Emergency Department, as well as training tomorrow's Emergency Medicine leaders, makes it not only the "front door" to the Rocky Mountain Regional Trauma Center, but also a leading factor in the Center's unmatched trauma survival rate of 96.8 percent.

NewER, ModERn, ClosER – EmERgency Care Just for Kids!

It was a banner day at Denver Health when the Denver Emergency Center for Children (the DECC) opened September 10, 2008. With the inception of the DECC, Denver Health is able to provide the perfect setting and mix of health care professionals for optimal pediatric patient care.

For many years at Denver Health, pediatric urgent care was provided by the Pediatric Urgent Care Clinic (the PUCC) in a busy corner of the hospital, and most emergency pediatric care was provided in the Emergency Department (ED), where sick and injured children mingled with adults. Neither setting was ideal: the PUCC had limited space and resources; the ED was often too harsh a milieu for the youngest, most vulnerable patients.

With the creation and construction of the new DECC, Denver Health invested in a new department that provides emergency and urgent care services for children up to 18 years of age, offering enhanced inpatient and subspecialty pediatric services. Since

Denver Health cares for 35 percent of Denver's children, it was timely to support its overall mission of providing needed medical resources for Denver's pediatric population in a sparkling new high-technology setting.

The DECC has a separate pediatric ambulance entrance, a pediatric-specific waiting area and 19 private exam rooms, two of which are state-of-the-art trauma rooms for the most critically ill and injured pediatric patients.

Each room is decorated with pediatric designs and warm colors to make our children feel comforted and welcome. A flat screen television is perched near every door to provide diversion and education (in English and Spanish) for children and their families. With in-room registration and initial nursing assessments, patients are fast-tracked directly to an exam room upon arrival, thus facilitating rapid treatment. To ensure that care that begins in the pediatric emergency department has continuity, enrollment services

are provided to all children in the DECC and communication with primary care providers is made with each encounter.

The DECC experienced close to 30,000 pediatric visits in just a few months after opening in September 2008. The average through-put time in the DECC (from presentation to discharge) is approximately 1.5 hours. Physicians who provide care and support for the DECC include pediatricians, pediatric specialists in intensive care medicine, infectious disease, surgery, orthopedics, neurosurgery, ophthalmology and child abuse.

A key feature of this new department is the coming together of Denver Health emergency and urgent care specialties that for many years have operated independently. The nursing staff combines the talents of both areas and has proven to be an essential component of the overall mission to provide pediatric-specific and family-centered care.

Nurses in the DECC are highly trained, and experienced in facilitating the management of pediatric patients and families. The physician providers in the DECC are specialists in Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine, with four Pediatric Emergency Medicine fellowship trained physicians on staff.

The Denver Emergency Center for Children is Denver's newest Pediatric Emergency Department. It is the culmination of years of hard work, and the realization of a dream – a place that offers the highest quality family-centered care in the best setting for all children.



Training Leaders in Emergency Medicine

Since 1974, the faculty and alumni of the Denver Health Emergency Medicine Residency Program have demonstrated exemplary leadership.

Spread throughout the country in both academic and private institutions, the program's alumni maintain a standard of excellence, taught in the program, which has more than 360 graduates and directors of more than 10 academic departments and 20 residency programs nationally.

Alumni have served as president of the American Board of Emergency Medicine, president of the American College of Emergency Physicians, and lead editor of the pre-eminent textbook in emergency medicine.

Leadership is a blend of clinical, academic and administrative excellence. Once developed, leadership skills reach beyond any practice setting, empowering physicians to advance the discipline of Emergency Medicine. This is the essence of the program's educational philosophy.

Cultivation of this standard starts with a resident's clinical

training, to solidify clinical excellence through a program in which no experience is left unexplored. Through a multi-institutional and multidisciplinary approach, Denver Health, the University of Colorado Hospital, Kaiser Permanente/Saint Joseph Hospital, and The Children's Hospital of Denver seamlessly come together to deliver an educational experience based on an integrated and structured ladder of graded responsibility, which allows residents to climb far beyond competency, reaching expertise.

*800 applications for
14 positions*

Building on this foundation of clinical excellence, residents are provided academic resources, exposure, and opportunity. The

Emergency Medicine Department's mission statement affirms a dedication to this developmental process:

"Residents and academics are what connect us, inspire us and make us strong, and it is therefore through this lens of the Emergency Medicine Residency that we shape our future as a department."

Academic endeavors of the faculty are intertwined with resident involvement, from textbook chapters and research to policy formation and committee involvement, which results in unparalleled resident accomplishments.

In the last couple of year, residents have received more than 10 national awards, filled more than 20 national committee positions, and published numerous peer reviewed publications.

“The program has come a long way in the last 34 years,” said Vince Markovchick, M.D., director, Emergency Medicine, Denver Health. “We’ve trained emergency medicine physicians who now hold directorships at some of the most prestigious and busiest emergency departments in the country.”

To date, 363 residents have graduated from the program. Graduates run, or have ran, emergency medicine programs at Harvard; Beth Israel Hospital in New York; Cook County Hospital in Chicago; Maricopa County Hospital in Phoenix; Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville, Fla.; Vancouver Hospital in Canada; Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland; Washington University in St. Louis; the Mayo Clinic and New York University/Bellevue Hospital.

Of the 363 graduates of the program since 1977, 158 went on to practice Emergency Medicine

at hospitals and in private practices throughout Colorado, many in rural areas of the state. In Colorado today, graduates include a county coroner, two toxicologists, two emergency medical services/paramedic directors, one professor at the University of Denver and one workers compensation insurance specialist. In addition, 10 are in private practice, 69 are practicing in hospitals in rural Colorado, 94 are practicing in hospitals in the Denver Metropolitan area, and another 11 are practicing at Denver Health.

It is the unwavering dedication of Denver Health as an institution, the faculty and staff, and the residents that not only make the program one of the nation’s premier training programs in emergency medicine, but also enables the residency to continue to train the future leaders of emergency medicine.

Thirty-five years after its inception, the Denver Health Emergency Medicine Residency Program is one of the nation’s most competitive programs, and is the only one of its kind in Colorado.

DH Graduates at Colorado Hospitals

*Boulder Community Hospital
Delta County Memorial Hospital
Denver Health
Kaiser Permanente
Littleton Adventist Hospital
Longmont United Hospital
Exempla Luthern Medical Center
Medical Center of Aurora
Memorial Health System
Mercy Regional Medical Center
Montrose Memorial Hospital
North Colorado Medical Center
Parker Adventist Hospital
Parkview Medical Center
Porter Adventist Hospital
Rose Medical Center
St. Anthony Hospital
St. Joseph Hospital
St. Mary’s Hospital
Swedish Medical Center
University of Colorado Hospital
Vail Valley Medical Center
Valley View Hospital
Yampa Valley Medical Center*

Achieving the Pinnacle in Emergency Medicine Education

Physicians who want to reach the pinnacle of their training, education and practice in Emergency Medicine know that Denver Health is the place to come and continue their learning as a “Fellow” — an intensive, focused experience that follows the four years of residency.

“Spending a year to two years training as a Fellow is considered by some to be the apex of a physician’s career,” said Chris Colwell, M.D., interim director, Emergency Medicine. The Fellows will see patients, conduct research, supervise residents and learn from experts on how to provide the highest quality emergency medicine and save lives.”

Denver Health offers four highly specialized Fellowships through its Emergency Medicine department — Emergency Medicine, Research, Ultrasound and Toxicology.

“In some cases, we have the people who literally ‘wrote the book’ on a speciality, training the Fellows,” said Colwell.

There is the option for the Fellows of obtaining a Master’s-level degree in public health, biostatistics, epidemiology, or health services.

In addition, Emergency Medicine Fellows are appointed as Clinical Instructors in the Division of Emergency Medicine, Department of Surgery, at the University of Colorado-Denver School of Medicine.

Responsibilities of a Fellow consist of caring for patients, supervising resident physicians and medical students, conducting teaching rounds, and providing medical records documentation for services provided.

“The Denver Health Emergency Medicine Fellowships truly are a unique opportunity for physicians to hone their skills and conduct research,” said Colwell. “We are one of only a few programs in the country to offer in-depth, intensive emergency medicine-focused, didactic Fellowship programs in addition to a residency program. Our

educational opportunities in Emergency Medicine are exciting and unique.”

Fellowships *Emergency Medicine* *Research* *Toxicology* *Ultrasound*

Advancing Emergency Medicine through Research

Since its inception, the Department of Emergency Medicine has been a source of pride and recognition, for the highly skilled expertise of its attending physicians, and for the cutting-edge research conducted by its physicians and residents.

Research conducted in the department has improved outcomes for patients worldwide. Research under way in the department in 2009, totals nearly \$16 million. This research includes substance abuse and mental health screenings, HIV/AIDS, trauma organ dysfunction scores and crash scene assessment by paramedics.

Historically, emergency department physician, resident and paramedic research has included everything from emergency preparedness to homelessness and alcoholism, and has been conducted in the emergency room, in the pre-hospital setting and in the field.

Two of the largest studies currently underway are:

Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT); **\$2.5 million**; **Kerry Broderick, M.D.**, principal investigator; funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Evaluation of Opt-Out Rapid HIV Testing in the Emergency Department; **\$840,000**; **Jason Haukoos, M.D.**, principal investigator; funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Stan – The Talking, Breathing, Surrogate Patient

HAL the “talking, thinking” computer in the movie “2001: A Space Odyssey” has nothing on Stan the “talking, breathing, computerized patient simulator” used by trainers at Denver Health. Stan helps health care providers assess basic medical knowledge, clinical applications, procedures, communication skills, team dynamics and risk management principles.

“Stan is a computerized mannequin that communicates feelings such as pain, discomfort, relief and contentment to help teach clinical procedures,” said Seth Jones, paramedic, Denver Health. “Using computerized voice enhancement, Stan talks to us and lets us know how he is feeling so that we can learn by performing medical procedures on him.”

In 2007, Dr. Stephen Cantrill and the Biological, Nuclear, Incendiary, Chemical and Explosive Incidents (BNICE) team, which was funded by a national emergency preparedness grant, had the foresight to get high fidelity human patient simulators for training in bioterrorism and disaster scenarios. Since then, the simulators have been utilized throughout the Department of Emergency Medicine, both at the Paramedic Division and in the Emergency Medicine Residency to prepare care providers with the knowledge and skills necessary to save lives.

In the Emergency Medicine Residency program, residents are presented with an array of possible patient scenarios conducted on Stan who helps them evaluate patient management and team

communication. One scenario involves a 70-year-old male who is having a heart attack. The residents must recognize the pattern of myocardial infarction on an EKG and then implement the appropriate therapies, all while the patient, Stan, is talking with them. If the appropriate therapies are not implemented in a timely fashion, Stan deteriorates through a series of medical complications, communicating until the end.

The use of simulators as patients has become an integral part of resident training.

A committee comprised of members from the Emergency Department, Paramedic Division, and Nursing Education has come together to develop a plan for a dedicated Simulation Training Center at Denver Health, which would benefit the Denver Health staff and residents, as well as the community at large by providing continuing medical education on everything from intricate medical procedures to CPR classes.

“Utilizing Stan, and other computerized mannequins and training equipment, in a dedicated Simulation Center will be a unique opportunity for all medical specialties and care providers to come together to further their knowledge and team work while at the same time enhancing patient care,” said Jones. “Stan is the culmination of what HAL started way back in the 1960s — even though HAL was just a computer in a movie.”



100 Years of Experience and Expertise

Recently, three of Denver Health's Emergency Medicine physicians retired after nearly 100 years of combined service to the organization. Though Drs. Vince Markovchick, Stephen Cantrill and Peter Pons have all officially retired from Denver Health, each keeps close ties with their colleagues and co-workers, and occasionally even picks up a shift in the Emergency Department sharing their vast knowledge, expertise and experience.

Vince Markovchick, M.D.

In 1977, when the Denver General Emergency Department was under the direction of Dr. Rosen, Dr. Markovchick joined him in Denver and began developing both the Emergency Department and the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Denver Health, two years before Emergency Medicine was officially recognized as a specialty.

"It means everything to me that I have been so involved in the development of Denver Health's Emergency Medicine services. The residents and the things that we do kept me here for more than 30 years," said Dr. Markovchick. He retired as Director of Emergency Medicine at Denver Health, a position he held for nearly 20 years.

"When you work as a physician in Emergency Medicine, you see thousands patients every year, and you hope that you did a good job.

"If you train residents in Emergency Medicine, you affect all of those students, who then become physicians and see thousands of patients. When you're involved in academics you feel as though you make a bigger overall contribution to improving the quality of care. It truly is a very rewarding career."

Peter T. Pons, M.D.

"Emergency Medicine gave me the opportunity to practice a little bit of every specialty and truly be involved in the patient's care," said Dr. Pons.

In 1977, Dr. Pons arrived as a resident at then-Denver General. There were nine residents in his class including Dr. Ben Honigman, who is now



the head of the University of Colorado Division of Emergency Medicine.

“I had read about Peter Rosen and knew him by reputation,” said Dr. Pons. “Dr. Rosen is an amazing man and I cannot overemphasize the influence he has had on me.”

“I’m not sure that he (Rosen) ever thought of himself as the father of emergency medicine, but we thought of him that way.”

Dr. Pons dedicated nearly 30 years of service to Denver Health. He was actively involved with pre-hospital care and disaster preparedness. He also served as the Associate Director for Emergency Medicine at Denver Health and as Professor of Emergency Medicine in the Department of Surgery at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Dr. Pons also served as the EMS Medical Director for the 9-1-1 paramedic ambulance service in Denver, based at Denver Health, as well as for several fire department-based EMS systems.

He has published numerous peer-reviewed journal articles on EMS and edited several textbooks for emergency medical technicians and paramedics. He has served as the physician director for numerous special events in Denver, including the Denver Grand Prix and World Youth Day that included the visit of Pope John Paul II.

Stephen Cantrill, M.D.

“I was drawn to emergency medicine because of the breadth of patients in terms of the types of medical issues you see. You never know what a patient may present with in the Emergency Department. Patients in the ED require all of your attention all the time, and that’s what keeps your skill level high,” said Dr. Cantrill.

Dr. Cantrill did his residency at Denver Health in 1979, under the direction of Dr. Vince Markovchick, Dr. Peter Pons, and Dr. Peter Rosen, all of whom he considers mentors.

For more than 25 years, Dr. Cantrill assumed an active role in policy making at a local, national, and international level, advancing the frontiers of emergency medicine. He has acted as an exemplary leader in emergency medicine, representing the specialty on an academic, political and administrative front.

Dr. Cantrill remains active in disaster management and weapons of mass destruction education, a role he has held since 1984. He still serves on the State of Colorado Governor’s Expert Emergency Epidemic Response Committee .



An All New Emergency Department.

Private rooms, state-of-the-art-equipment, larger waiting areas for patients and two separate entrances for ambulances are among the highlights of Denver Health's newly renovated Emergency Department.

A three-year expansion and renovation project includes the addition of the Adult Urgent Care Clinic; the Denver Emergency Center for Children; an expanded patient waiting room with a separate area for children; a Central Evaluation Unit to ensure that walk-in patients receive the right level of care; an adult Emergency Department with an area for medicine patients and a separate area for trauma patients; and Flex rooms available to handle surges of patients, as well as a new Psychiatric Emergency Department with a separate, private entrance. The total renovation was more than \$32 million.

The remodel of the first floor of the hospital, dedicating it to urgent

and emergency care, ensures that patients are receiving the right level of care in the right venue at the right time.

Private Exam Rooms

Trauma — 24

Medicine — 12

DECC — 19

Flex — 9

Triage — 11

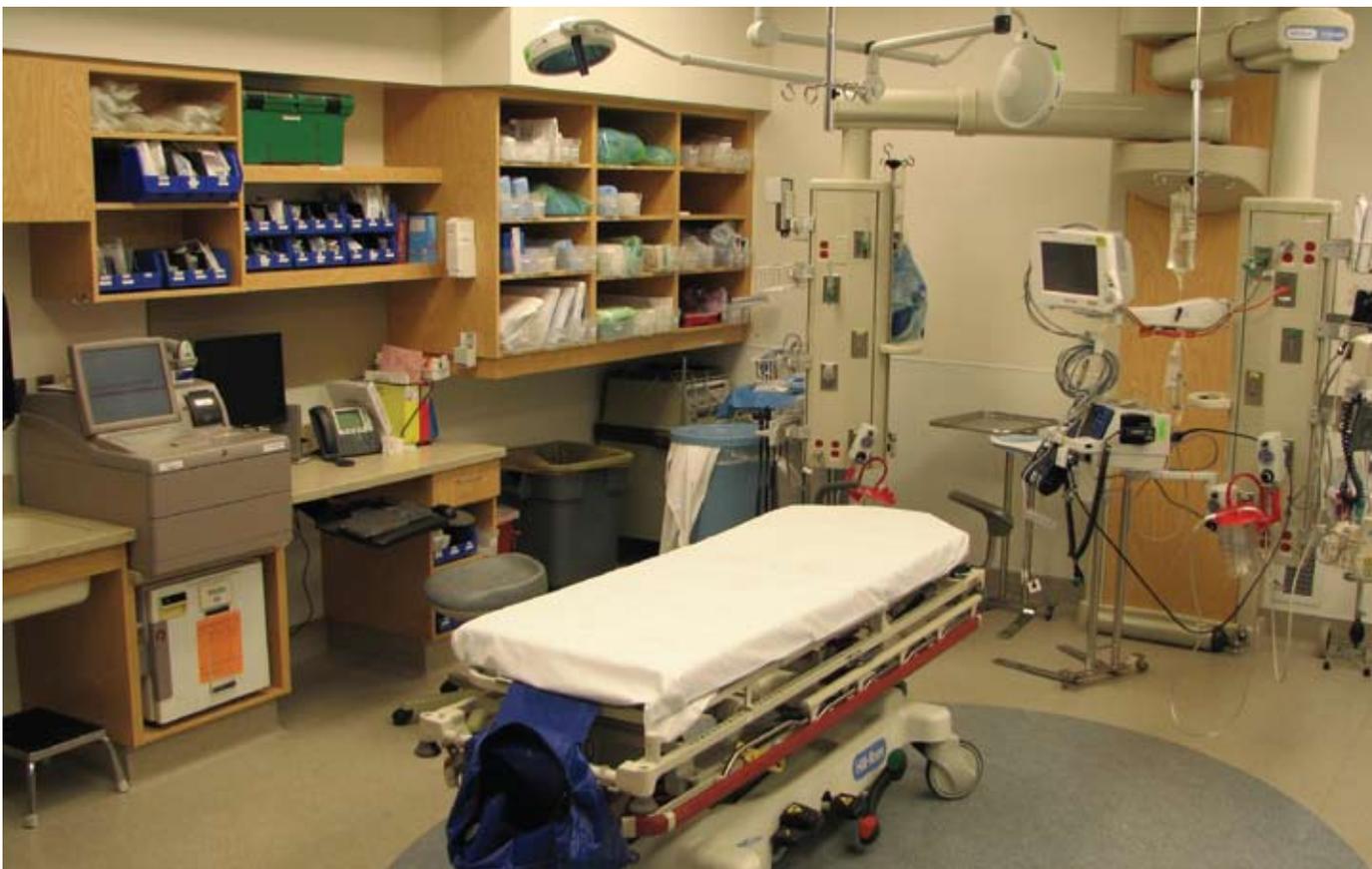
Urgent Care — 23

Psych ED — 10

The renovation was needed due to a dramatic increase in patient volume. In 2008, Denver Health provided \$318 million in care to uninsured patients, a 14 percent increase from the \$276 million provided in 2007. In addition, the volume of emergency and urgent care patient visits has risen

significantly to nearly 98,000 in 2008.

“We are always working to improve the delivery of patient care,” said Patricia A. Gabow, M.D., CEO, Denver Health. “The renovation of the first floor in the hospital is one more example of looking at our patients’ needs as well as our ability to deliver safe, high quality, efficient care, and making needed improvements so we can continue to provide Level One Care for All.”



Providing Emergency Care in a Level One Trauma Center

As the front door to the Rocky Mountain Regional Trauma Center, the Denver Health Emergency Department physicians, nurses and staff join other members of the Trauma Team in treating more than 2,000 critically ill and injured patients who are transported from throughout the Rocky Mountain Region.

The Emergency Department, staffed by board-certified emergency medicine physicians and experienced nurses, includes state-of-the-art cardiac, trauma and medical treatment rooms and is able to treat or stabilize all emergency conditions or illnesses including the most life-threatening injuries.

*16 full-time
Emergency Medicine
Certified Physicians*

The Trauma Team is ready to respond to any adult or pediatric trauma situation, 24 hours a day.

“There is an integration of care at Denver Health from the first contact by the paramedics in the field through the rest of the patient’s care, everyone

is working under the same roof for the same purpose,” said Chris Colwell, M.D., interim director, Emergency Medicine, and medical director for the Denver Health Paramedic Division, and the Denver Fire Department. “The integration of services and skill level of our care providers play a critical role in the success of our patients.”



The Peter Rosen Endowed Chair in Emergency Medicine

The Denver Health Foundation recently began raising funds for an endowment in the name of Peter Rosen — The Peter Rosen Endowed Chair in Emergency Medicine.

Peter Rosen, M.D., was the Director of Emergency Medicine at Denver Health (then-Denver General) from 1977 until 1989. Internationally known as the “father of Emergency Medicine,” Dr. Rosen is currently an attending physician in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Beth Israel/Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, and is a Senior Lecturer at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Rosen was elected to the National Academy of Sciences’ Institute of Medicine in 1993. The founding editor of what is now “Rosen’s Emergency Medicine: Concepts and Clinical Practice,” the American Academy of Emergency Medicine presents the Peter Rosen Award annually to a recipient who has worked for 10 or more years in an Emergency Medicine academic leadership position, advancing the practice of Emergency Medicine and training future leaders.

The Rosen Endowment is intended to provide the Department of Emergency Medicine with research funds to improve lifesaving procedures.

There are numerous research opportunities to improve outcomes for patients who enter a hospital through the Emergency Department, each of which increases the scope of knowledge offered to physicians. However, funding for clinical research is very hard to earn, especially for young investigators. The Rosen Endowment will provide an invaluable income stream dedicated solely to the purpose of augmenting opportunities for clinical research in emergency medicine.

Full funding of the Peter Rosen Endowment will enable Denver Health to continue research that saves lives.

To donate to the Peter Rosen Endowed Chair in Emergency Medicine, contact the Denver Health Foundation at 303-602-2971, or visit denverhealthfoundation.org.



Home Base for EMS

Paramedics are a part of every day life, but few citizens ever really stop to consider the vital role paramedics play in the community.

As the primary medical 9-1-1 provider for the City and County of Denver, the Denver Health Paramedic Division responds each year to more than 85,000 medical emergencies ranging from minor injuries to mass casualties, essentially bringing the emergency room out onto the streets of Denver.

“Denver Health has highly skilled Paramedics who have experience in responding to just about any situation,” said Chris Colwell, M.D., medical director for the Denver Fire Department and

Denver Paramedics. “The patient population in Denver allows for a constant challenge and helps keep the division up-to-date skill wise.”

All Denver Health Paramedics are in constant contact with Emergency Medicine physicians in the Denver Health Emergency Department. It is their home base.

Denver Health Paramedics undergo long and arduous training, because delivering high quality care requires extensive education.

The Denver Health Paramedic School provides the education for many Paramedics new to the field. The school enrolls 30 students each year in a rigorous 12-month course of study. The curriculum consists of more than 1,500 hours of preparation. It is fully accredited by the Committee on Accreditation

of Allied Health Educational Programs (CAAHEP), upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP). The school, which also serves as the exclusive center

*85,000 calls for
Emergency
Medical Assistance*

*51,000 Patient
Transports to
12 Area Hospitals*

for all EMS training for Denver Fire Department EMTs, provides the most physician teaching hours in the nation.

In 2008, the Denver Health Paramedic School graduated its eighth class. Since its inception in 2000, the school has graduated 142 paramedics.

Of the graduates, 138 are working in the field, including 61 who are employed by Denver Health. Not including those working in the Denver Health Paramedic Division, more than 70 graduates are working for EMS services across the state of Colorado including several in rural areas.

The EMS system not only provides training to paramedics, it also provides a great deal of training and experience to those participating in the Emergency Medicine Residency Program. Each resident is required to participate in EMS Month as part of their training.

“Training the next generation of Paramedics goes hand in hand with training the next generation of Emergency Medicine physicians,” said Dr. Colwell. “Paramedics and ED doctors are part of an essential, integrated team in the delivery of Emergency Medicine.”



Denver Health Alumni

Since 1974, Denver faculty and alumni have demonstrated enduring leadership. Spread throughout the country in both academic and private institutions, these alumni maintain a standard of excellence.

Denver Health is proud to train leaders in Emergency Medicine.

One of the best ways to evaluate a residency program is to ask where the graduates are working now. In addition to holding positions of leadership within Emergency Medicine Departments, many graduates have achieved other impressive accomplishments.

The following are thoughts from some of Denver Health's most prominent graduates.

360 Graduates

10 Directors of Academic Departments

20 Directors of Residency Programs

Douglas Char, M.D.
Associate Professor Emergency Medicine
Residency Program Director
Washington University, St Louis, Missouri

"In 1989, when I arrived in Denver to train in Internal Medicine, I had never really considered Emergency Medicine as a career, and I'd never heard of Denver General.

"I was impressed that I found a group of individuals who seemed to be willing to take on any clinical challenge thrown their way.

"I graduated from the program in 1995 wanting to share what I'd found at 'DG,' and jumped at the opportunity to help develop a training program in a region where emergency care was fragmented and Emergency Medicine as a specialty (which one specifically prepared for) was pretty much unheard of.

"Now, 14 years later it's gratifying to be graduating Emergency Medicine physicians from a program largely modeled after what I learned in Denver."

Glenn C. Hamilton, M.D., M.S.M.
Professor and Chair, Department of Emergency Medicine
Boonshoft School of Medicine, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

“My time at Denver General transformed my understanding of what it meant to be an emergency physician. The principles learned during that training have stood the test of time, and have been passed on to more than 300 residents trained at Wright State.

“More than 30 years later it’s easy to recall the talented faculty, enthusiastic residents, and hard-working comradery of the Emergency Department itself.

“I’ve had the privilege of a long career in academic Emergency Medicine and it all started at DG.”



John Marx, M.D.
Chair and Chief, Emergency Medicine
Carolinas Medical Center, Charlotte, North Carolina

“I was fortunate to have been in the first Peter Rosen led class in the Emergency Medicine Residency program at Denver General. I like to think that we laid the foundation that has allowed the program to attain incredible success for more than 30 years, and has graduated some of the finest leaders in emergency medicine in the country.

“Clinically, my training gives me the confidence to see any type of emergency patient. I also saw my first case of high altitude pulmonary edema as a resident which sparked my interest in altitude medicine and served as the basis for my research career.

“The emergency medicine training at Denver Health ranks among the best in the world and I am proud to be counted as one of its trainees.

*“Notables in the 1979 graduating class included **Glenn Hamilton** (longstanding Chair at Wayne State), **Ben Honigman** (longstanding Chief at the University of Colorado Denver Health Sciences Center) and **Peter Pons** (a member of Denver Health faculty for decades and a major leader of EMS in Denver)*

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Dr. John Marx

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*And, in my own class of 1980 were **Bob Jorden** (started and chaired the residency program at the University of Mississippi and then took over the Chair at Maricopa in Phoenix) and **Hal Thomas** (current President of ABEM).*

“Denver General Hospital (aka Denver Health Medical Center) will forever hold a deep and forceful grip on my heart. I will never forget the institution and the many people within who helped push, prod and lead me into other opportunities in my career. For that and to those, I am forever grateful.”



Jeffrey Schaidt, M.D.

**Chairman, Department of Emergency Medicine
Cook County Hospital, Chicago, Illinois**

“I completed my emergency medicine residency in 1989.

“My residency at Denver General provided me with a tremendous learning opportunity, great mentorship and set me on the path for a very successful career in emergency medicine.

“Following graduation, I decided to pursue my career at another public hospital – Cook County Hospital – where the emergency medicine residency had just begun. The training in Denver provided me with the skills and leadership to help build the emergency medicine program at Cook County.”



Ron M. Walls, MD
Professor and Chair, Department of Emergency Medicine
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

“Without a doubt, the mentorship I received during my emergency medicine residency in the early 1980s from Dr. Peter Rosen, Dr. John Marx, and the rest of the faculty was instrumental in preparing me for my future career in academic emergency medicine.”



Richard Wolfe, M.D.
Chief of Emergency Medicine
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, A Teaching Hospital of
Harvard University,
Associate Professor Medicine, Harvard Medical School,
Boston, Massachusetts

“The Emergency Medicine Residency Program under Peter Rosen and Vince Markovchick, was justifiably referred to as ‘Mecca’ by applicants in the 1980s.

“Then, as now, it stood out from other programs in its vision of the emergency physician as an expert, and for its unwavering dedication to excellence and intellectual honesty.

“Today, the Denver graduates have built residencies or chair departments at many academic centers including Mayo, MGH, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Washington University, Highland, and Carolinas Medical Center.

“At Harvard, because of the influx of Denver trainees in building the two residencies, the joke among the Harvard emergency medicine residents was that BID stood for back in Denver, as we constantly cited Denver as the standard to emulate.”



Preparing Leaders, Saving Lives
The Front Lines of Emergency Medicine

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