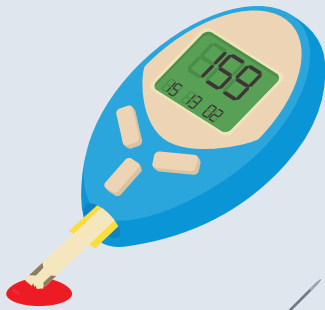


THE FIVE MIRACLES OF EMS

It is important to reflect on what we do, especially the good, and most especially the miracles.



REVERSAL OF HYPOGLYCEMIA

In medicine, it is technically low-hanging fruit. Low on sugar, give sugar. But the results are so rapid and dramatic that almost everyone remembers their first call like this. This simple and astonishingly effective field treatment removes the negative calls, codes, and traumas.



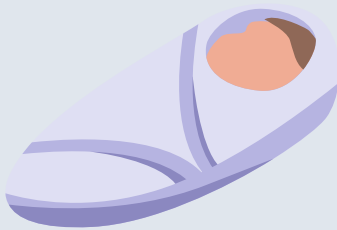
REVERSAL OF OPIOID OVERDOSE

While naloxone has been around for a long time, it wasn't until the recent opioid epidemic that the naloxone-fueled reversal became a commonplace occurrence. Joining hypoglycemia in the miracle category (albeit with baggage around unpleasant side-effects from the patient waking up aggressively), naloxone nonetheless has a place in the EMS miracle category.



RETURN OF SPONTANEOUS CIRCULATION

ROSC, formerly and simply known before as “we got a %\$#@ing pulse back!” falls among the greatest EMS victories, the fight against death itself. This wasn't common until recent advances in science and practice brought out-of-hospital survival rates from 1–3% in the 1990s up to about 10% nationally now and considerably higher in some cities.



CHILDBIRTH

Childbirth is a natural process that was done for centuries without EMS and hospitals. But there is still something about delivering a baby in the field that may be one of the ultimate EMS experiences.



THE THANK YOU

Every one of the previous four miracles can come with a thank you. A very meaningful thank you. But the concept of having a patient and their family come by the station and offer a personal thank you (often accompanied by delicious baked goods) is particularly rewarding.