



Industry Information for EMS Instructors, Educators, Administrators, Preceptors, and Students

This newsletter is dedicated to instructors, administrators, and providers of the EMS profession. As always, **if you have any questions** concerning anything in this edition of the *Platinum Pulse*, feel free to reach out to us anytime by [clicking here](#) and a representative will contact you.

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Let it Snow

Getting an inch of snow is like winning 10 cents in the lottery. - Bill Watterson

We hope everyone had a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday. Hopefully you didn't gain as much weight as we did! The photo denotes what typically happens in our state (Michigan) in December, snow, snow, snow. So, to all that experience that cold white stuff we sympathize. To all those that do not can we come hang out with you.

Thank you for taking the time and reading this month's Platinum Post. If you are receiving our newsletter, then chances are we have products that will make your lives, and your students' lives, much easier. Not to mention raise your programs overall performance. We provide software solutions to EMS, Nursing, and Allied Health educators, students, and institutions. So, if you are a part of any of those groups, **we want to help you.**

The Staff at Platinum Educational Group



Who is Platinum Educational Group, exactly?

As Platinum Educational Group continues to broaden the versatility of their solutions for healthcare professions, as well as increase our audience, we would like to remind people of who we are and what we do!

We are staunch advocates for the highest degree of training for all EMS levels. **We are proud to boast the best study prep and skills tracking programs for each.**

"Excellent easy to use software that is an asset to any educational program." - Mark Boisclair, EMS Lead Instructor, Chattahoochee Valley Community College

Factoid: We have delivered over 180 new features to our customers, many at their request, since 2015!

Our Mission: Deliver valid and reliable testing, assessment, scheduling, skills tracking, and reporting solutions.

Our Vision: Every learner in the world can benefit from our solutions.



NAEMSE & Platinum Educational Group Partner to Bring You a Notable Appendix G Webinar!

In NAEMSE is excited to announce the last webinar of 2018, The Appendix G and Me. This webinar will be presented by Platinum Educational Group's CEO, Doug Smith, and features the following objectives:

- Explain how the new Appendix G from CoAEMSP relates to the NREMT's Portfolio
- Explain the relationship of the 4 tables of the new Appendix G
- Analyze and explain the progressive requirements of the new Appendix G

Date: December 12, 2018

Time: 12:00 PM EST

[Register](#)



Five Big Things in November

What Has Platinum Been Up To?

Each month we are going to keep you up to date on important updates to our software, the big projects we have been tackling, and our community involvement. So, for the month of November.

[Read Full Article!](#)



Don't Miss out on our December Promotion

December slows down quite a bit for many programs in EMS, but not always for administrators, instructors, and coordinators. It is a great time to catch up, reorganize, and explore **what options are available to make YOUR program the most efficient**. Well, we would like to assist you in that process **AND** treat you to your favorite item at Starbucks. **You deserve it.**

How do I get a \$5 gift card to Starbuck's from Platinum Educational Group? EASY. Just schedule a short online demo of any of our products during the month of December. After your active participation and completion of the webinar, an egift card will be emailed to you! **There is absolutely no obligation to purchase**, we just appreciate the opportunity to show you how our market leading solutions can make your life easier.

[Full Details](#)

In addition to special contests, each month we randomly select a profile that has liked our [Company Page](#). That person/company receives an awesome "thank you" package from us! So, go ahead and give us a "like" **YOU MAY BE OUR NEXT WINNER!** November's awardee is **Shara Seals from Mechanicsville, VA**

New Features Updates

By the Dev Team

[NEW FEATURE: November 2018](#)

[NEW FEATURE: October 2018](#)

[NEW FEATURES: September 2018](#)

[NEW FEATURES: August 2018](#)



Platinum Educational Group Solutions for EMS Training Programs

Top Five Reasons to Use EMSTesting

- True Computer Adaptive Testing Practice!
- Most Validated Solution Available! Over 115,000,000 responses to date!
- Over 5,000 validated questions in our test bank; with questions at four provider levels!
- Group Testing feature turns learning into a fun game!
- EMSTesting can be used with any EMS textbook, regardless of publisher!

Join the hundreds of other programs that have adopted our solutions to make their EMR-EMT-AEMT-Paramedic program run as smoothly as possible! We offer the most reliable and valid testing on the market via [EMSTesting](#). We provide the only Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT) testing prep program that mimics the National Registry Exam! We will help your program raise your pass rates and we offer a [100% guarantee*](#) to back that!

"We certainly are enjoying having EMSTesting as part of our arsenal for our student's success." - Randy Spies, EMS Program Coordinator, Blue Ridge Community & Technical College

Easy Demo Scheduling!



Top Five Reasons to Use PlatinumPlanner

- Provides students with a FREE mobile app that works both online and offline!
- Accreditation Standards! Meets/Exceeds what accrediting bodies are looking for!
- Totally customizable to meet YOUR program specific needs!
- Track the skills YOU want, download forms that YOU want to use!
- There is NO Institutional fee!

In addition to testing, we also provide a complete skills tracking, scheduling and reporting solution called [PlatinumPlanner](#). This flexible program tracks schedules, skills, and patient encounters. It assists in clinicals, labs, and scenario experiences. It generates reports for student progress, accreditation standards, and [NREMT Portfolio requirements](#)! Platinum Planner also offers free preceptor training - something our competitors do not!

Do not waste time tracking your students with paper and pencil! We have an easier and more cost-effective solution!

The best part, Platinum Planner has NO INSTITUTIONAL FEE! There is just a nominal student fee.

"Platinum Planner has made my life much easier and I really appreciate that. So glad that I took the leap and tried your product! What a difference it is making in our Paramedic Program! Highly recommend!" - Toni Milan, Director EMS Education, Respond Right EMS Academy

Easy Demo Scheduling!



Private Firefighters and Raising First Responders' Salaries

By Allison G. S. Knox, Contributor, EDM Digest

California's two major wildfires this month quickly became the focal point of the news media. To manage the fires, emergency managers requested assistance from numerous states through [mutual aid agreements](#) at the local and state levels of government. Volunteers and organizations also came together to help extinguish the fires.

[Read Full Article](#)



Keeping It Real – Scenario Hacks

By Tom Gottschalk, COO, Medical Educator

Don't have thousands of dollars to invest in high fidelity simulators? Here are 10 hacks to make scenarios more real.

1. Use a medical student or nurses to serve as model patient.
2. Use male patients to allow for uncompromised makeup application and encourages true exposure of chest injuries for trauma scenarios.
3. Don't forget the cold cream!
4. Ask ahead of time about allergies.
5. Use nontraditional clothing on the patients and bystanders to set a mood.
6. Make cheap blood for the mouth. 2 cups powder sugar, 1 tsp vanilla, 1 fluid oz. Red food coloring, 1 cup of Karo syrup. Thin as needed with warm water.
7. Have the patient wear a wig with a piece of moist sponge material under it to simulate a depressed skull injury.
8. Burn or cut clothing worn by victims. Add dirt and grass.
9. Try melted candle wax to simulate blisters and sores.
10. Don't forget the odors, sound effects and lighting.

[Read Full Article](#)



The Scholarly Column: Educating At Risk Students

By Regina M. Sportsman, RMA, CMA (AAMA), BA, MM, MBA

More and more students that are attending colleges (specifically for-profit) are coming to the campuses with a plethora of challenges. There are many different issues that they are facing such as homelessness, hunger, domestic violence, no transportation, mental issues and jobs that have no care regarding the students furthering their education. Many are working late hours, have small or teenage children at home, and are just trying to make a way for their future. The students for the most part are typically encouraged to take on a full-load and thus many end up letting life get in the way. This puts educators in a precarious position as instructors are charged with making sure that they are having a high number of students attend their classes on a daily basis.

[Read Full Article](#)



Why Modern Day Emergency Scenarios Necessitate Added Protection for First Responders

By Andy Bershad, NYPD Detective and Haz Mat/Rescue Specialist FEMA, Advisory Board, Armor NOW

Imagine first responders arriving on the scene today of an all too common active shooter emergency. The area is chaotic, people are injured and trying to flee, and there is disorienting noise and smoke as police try to secure the area. The first responder's job is as it always has been to provide critical care to victims. However, responders are more and more often entering still-hostile environments where bullets may rain down or planted homemade bombs could explode at any time.

[Read Full Article](#)



How to Best Utilize EMSTesting: A Ten Part Series Part Three: Creating Custom Tests

By Jeremy Johnson, Director of Marketing

"Spoon feeding in the long run teaches us nothing but the shape of the spoon." - E.M. Forster

Did you know that EMSTesting allows you to create your own tests, quizzes, and final exams? It's true. It amazes me that some folks either do not know we offer this option; or do not want this choice. This article will discuss the importance of creating custom tests, the benefits to your students, and why YOU should utilize a customizable platform, if you do not already.

[Read Full Article](#)



News From Our Allies in Education

Every month we feature a key news snippet or other information from our allies in EMS Education. If you would like to connect and see how we can collaborate, [contact us!](#)



Announcing the Accreditation Conference by CoAEMSP

Not your typical EMS conference, ACCREDITCON is designed to be the comprehensive collaborative that offers every necessary resource for achieving accreditation success! ACCREDITCON is the most valuable investment you can make for the success of your educational program! [More details](#)



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMS EDUCATORS ANNOUNCES 2019-2021 STRATEGIC PLAN

Pittsburgh, PA – The National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE), the association representing the practice of EMS education released their 3 year Strategic Plan for FY 2019-2021. The Association, whose mission is "Inspiring Educational Excellence", has committed to focus its efforts on four significant areas of growth that will have a lasting, positive educational impact on the pre-hospital environment. [Learn More](#)



Ask the Customer Support Team

By David Smith, Customer Service Advocate

Q: In EMSTesting and PlatinumTests, can my students see their questions, rationale, and the correct answers on their Computer Adaptive Tests? A: There actually is not a way for students to see the correct answer and rationale on the Computer Adaptive Testing when they finish a test. There are two reasons we don't allow them to. The first is that the CAT draws from the same question bank as the linear test generator does. If they could review their CAT questions and answers, students would know the answers to questions you could present to them in class without having to actually study.

[Read Full Article!](#)

[Read past Q&A!](#)

"Amazing customer and tech support. Just started using this semester and they have made the transition very simple!" - Jimmy Stevens, EMS Education Program Director, Delgado Community College

Attend an Exclusive Appendix G Workshop by Platinum

Platinum Educational Group is Proud to Present an Exclusive Appendix G/Portfolio Workshop Series! There are 2 Dates/Times to choose from:

- [January 10, 2019 from 3 to 4 p.m. \(EST\).](#)
- [March 20, 2019 from 4 to 5 p.m. \(EST\).](#)

These webinars will dive into how specifically Platinum Planner will face the upcoming Appendix G challenges. It is expected that the participant will have either attended an Appendix G update provided by Platinum Educational Group or

have watched one the latest recorded webinar on Appendix G by Gordy Kokx that can be found at the [CoA website](#). It is also recommended the participant already has a basic understanding of the function of Platinum Planner.



Does your Program need Student Access Cards or Credit?

By John Zimmer, Client Relations Manager

Many programs still need to gain EMSTesting or Platinum Planner student access. There are three ways students can gain access into our programs:

1. EMS programs can purchase student access credit or cards directly through Platinum Educational Group; then the students reimburse through tuition or lab costs.
2. Students can purchase access cards through their institutions' bookstores.
3. Students can purchase access from our websites directly (EMSTesting, PlatinumPlanner, PlatinumTests) using their own credit/debit cards.

If you need student access for either EMSTesting, PlatinumTests or Platinum Planner, contact **John Zimmer** at 616-490-5395 or email [EMAIL](#).

If your annual license ends soon, please renew prior to expiration to avoid an interruption in service. If you have questions about your license renewal, contact **John Zimmer** at [EMAIL](#).



Remembering Colleagues

RIP: Jerry Zapolnik, MBA, BSBA-IT, EMT-P I/C

It is with a heavy heart we learned the passing of one of our brothers in EMS. Gerald "Jerry" Zapolnik, age 57, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, November 22, 2018 at his home in Saline, MI. He will be missed.

[Obituary](#).

RIP: David N. Duncan

It is with a heavy heart we learned the passing of one of our brothers in EMS. David wore many hats throughout the years including being a paramedic, EMS instructor and coordinator, registered nurse, and firefighter. He will be missed.

[Obituary](#).