

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIRE\RESCUE – WILL BE IN THE LEAD FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

Grand Haven Township, Michigan, February 16, 2007.

Grand Haven Charter Township Fire\Rescue has been anticipating a directive by Dr. Brian Cote' the Project Medical Director of Ottawa Medical Board Authority to approve the use of an advanced airway for patients that are not breathing – the apparatus is referred to as an Esophageal/Tracheal Combitube.

On February 14, 2007 Dr. Cote• approved the use of the Combitube consistent with the manufacturer's recommendations after appropriate training. Grand Haven Township Fire/Rescue is one of two departments in the County that currently has the appropriate training and operating EMT licensures to utilize these devices.

Township Fire Chief Tom Gerencer noted that this is very exciting news for the department since this new airway equipment will help to increase the chances of survival for an average of 5 patients per year. Yet, it costs only \$75 for each use.

Gerencer states that both basic life support units will have the new airway equipment stocked by March 1st.

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