WIRELESS VITAL SIGNS MONITORING IN 100 SECONDS!

To monitor a patient's vital signs, paramedics attach sensors to a patient, and in turn attach those sensors to cumbersome monitoring devices. This configuration presents problems.

> JACKIE KENNEDY: It attaches you significantly to the patient, so when you're moving the patient, all of that has to move with them, simultaneously, otherwise the patient becomes disconnected. So the equipment is very bulky and it usually takes two or three people to move the patient.

These emergency medical personnel are assessing a new wireless vital signs monitoring system. Developed by the DHS Science and Technology Directorate in cooperation with Sotera Wireless, the system replaces the wires and bulky monitor with a WiFi link and laptop computer.

It's designed for situations where a defibrillator is not required.

> PHIL WATERS: It provides the capability for emergency care personnel to monitor all of a patient's vital signs using a lightweight mobile device, and it also reduces space by replacing some of the heavy and bulky equipment. The system has the capability to send an encrypted PDF file with all of the patient's vital signs to the receiving facility before the patient arrives.

> JACKIE KENNEDY: It will change the face of how we respond and collect information and data, improving the quality of care and standards for EMS personnel and those of us who deploy in mass casualty events.

Pending FDA approval, a commercial version of the wireless vital signs monitoring system should be available to the EMS community in 2014.

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