Pulsara saves time when it matters most

NEA Baptist, along with other local health care systems and first responders, have been involved in a multi-year pilot program funded by the Arkansas Department on Health focused on reducing mortality rates by improving STEMI response times to heart

With Pulsara, a cloud-based application that provides emergency information via smart devices, NEA Baptist enlisted the help of the cath lab team, ED physicians, cardiologists on call and Joyce Lemieux, their director of nursing and chest pain coordinator.

“We used to rely on an old-school phone tree to notify the health care team of an incoming ambulance heart event,” said Lemieux. “Using a push notification app like Pulsara gives everyone the same information at the same time, saving valuable minutes. In a heart attack, time saved is muscle saved.”

The American Heart Association’s guidelines state that door-to-balloon time ideally should be 90 minutes or less. This means the patient should be in interventional surgery less than an hour and a half after entering the hospital. Lemiuex said that NEA Baptist is meeting and beating that time window with Pulsara.

All health care team members have the Pulsara app on their phones will on duty. They can see the EKG results, all vitals taken, medications administered or any other interventional tactics delivered in the ambulance so they know how to prepare for additional testing and surgery when the patient comes in the door. The app is password protected and HIPAA compliant.

The pilot program runs through 2020. Because of the positive results, other Baptist entities are implementing the technology.