

EZ-IO

In 2008, all Norfolk Fire Division paramedics were taught how to use a new piece of equipment called the EZ-IO. The EZ-IO is a lifesaving device used to establish a fluid or medication line directly into the patient's bone marrow in critical situations. The EZ-IO is used in situations where the patient's veins are either collapsed or otherwise not accessible by a typical intravenous needle. Essentially, a needle is attached to a lithium battery-powered drill. Then the needle is drilled into the bone, penetrating straight into the bone marrow which contains a network of venous sinusoids. This has allowed us to gain access into a patient's central circulatory system, in emergency cases, when fluid replacement and/or medications is needed.

The Norfolk Fire Division has three units that cost \$1,800 total. The Lions Club donated the money for the purchase of the units. We are very appreciative of their support.

