



County of San Diego

NICK MACCHIONE, FACHE
AGENCY DIRECTOR

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
6255 MISSION GORGE ROAD, MAIL STOP S-555
SAN DIEGO, CA 92120
(619) 285-6429 • FAX (619) 285-6531

WILMA J. WOOTEN, M.D., M.P.H.
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

MISSION STATEMENT

“As advisors to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, the Mission of the Emergency Medical Care Committee is to be an advocate for the community through the development of strategies for continuous improvement of the emergency medical services system.”

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC)
Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Meeting
Mary Meadows-Pitt R.N., Chair/Chris Wells, Vice-Chair
6255 Mission Gorge Road, San Diego, CA 92120
Thursday, January 14, 2016

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Drum, Daryn – County Paramedic Agency
Green, Katy – District 1
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – District 2
Mednick, Cheryl – American Red Cross
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses Association
Wells, R.N. Christine – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators

County Staff

Eldridge, Brett
Mahoney, R.N., Meredith
Smith, R.N., Susan
Wolchko, Janet (Recorder)

Agency Representatives

Broyles, Linda – RCCP
Forman, Kelly – Mercy Air
Hums, Jason – South Western College
McLuckie, Matthew – Reach Air
Osborn, Steve – Rural Metro
Peltier, Patricia – AMR
Pierce, R.N., Jodie – SD Fire Department
Rod, Rick – SD City EMS Rural Metro
Seabloom, Lynne – Oceanside Fire
Stauffer, Kim – SD Fire Department
Walls, Brandon – Reach Air

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Meadows-Pitt, EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:04 am. Attendees introduced themselves.

Announcement: Marcy Metz, County EMS Chief, Agency Operations husband suffered a cardiac arrest on Christmas Day. An update of his condition was given.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Chris Wells, seconded by Mary Meadows-Pitt to approve the EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee minutes for September 10, 2015 and December 10, 2015. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions submitted.

IV. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Chris Wells was nominated for 2016 EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Chairperson. Motion was made by Mary Meadows-Pitt. Motion carried.

Mary Meadows-Pitt was nominated for 2016 EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Vice-Chairperson. Motion was made by Chris Wells. Motion carried.

Chris Wells will be 2016 EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Chairperson and Mary Meadows-Pitt will be 2016 EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Vice-Chairperson.

V. OFF-LOAD ISSUES

A. Daryn Drum: SD County Fire Chiefs discussed offload delays at their meeting last week. Topics from that discussion will be taken to the SANDAG Public Safety Group meeting tomorrow.

1. A memo was sent out by San Joaquin County to their hospitals by Dan Burch, EMS Administrator, regarding offload policy between hospitals and EMS. The memo was directed to the EMS system. Stroke, STEMI and Trauma designation Trauma program policies were mentioned. Activate ways to address offload issues to take to full EMCC.
2. Home hospital transport current practice issue effects ability of providers to provide service. Practice regarding home healthcare provider transportation has caused a problem for the prehospital portion of the EMS system.

B. Legislation for offload delay times, data shared with hospitals.

1. Collecting accurate data. If you are bypassing a hospital, contact the base hospital for documentation on offload delay/bypass.
2. Bypass reporting of patients and hours discussion included:
 - AMR data in some areas of the County is showing progress in offload delays.

- Collectively counting data as there are different systems. Preshospital data regarding bypass and hospital data regarding ambulances at ER and bed count.
- Behavioral/mental health patients and psychiatric holds occupying hospital beds.
- Meeting with hospital CEO's to discuss wait times. A toolkit to reduce ambulance patient offload delays can be found online. The item is on hospital CEO's January agenda.
- Title 22 and patient transports.
- Contacting the Duty Officer to contact hospital administration. It was mentioned that throughput is a challenge with inter-facility transfers and holding beds.
- Psychiatric/Behavioral Health issues have been addressed in the Countywide Plan.
- March was the busiest month for transports since tracking transports in the County. Some hospitals recognized the need to enacted items on their Capacity Plan such as cancelling elective surgeries. Hospitals discussed putting up surge tents.

VI. CAPACITY PLAN – Susan Smith

Report:

- Capacity Taskforce meetings reconvened including the State Capacity Taskforce.
- Discussion was on offload delay increases and the flu season.

VII. STAFF REPORT – Susan Smith

- A. Capacity Plan and Duty Officer contact information:
The Duty Officer service is no longer using the Sheriff's number. The Annex D contact number will be confirmed with the EMS BT group.
- B. Influenza Watch:
Total flu cases as of January 2nd were 303; there were three (3) deaths.
- C. A Request for Information (RFI) was out for Prehospital Assessment. Multiple vendors responded. There is now a Request for Proposal (RFP) that is in final review.
- D. Community Paramedicine (CP) projects went live in October. Updated reports are presented to the EMCC Education/Research Subcommittee which is the advisory committee for the San Diego based pilots.
- E. Certification:
Please let EMT's and Paramedics know that same day service for certification and recertification may not be available due to EMS staff shortages. Please allow a couple of days for cards.
- F. Bypass facility reporting is captured by the hospital on bypass. Clarification in bypass documentation is necessary.

G. Policy/Protocols:

The Protocol Taskforce did not meet as this year as it is a minor year for policy/protocol changes.

Clarification on Narcan was mentioned for chronic pain management and/or use for opiate dependent patients. Meredith Mahoney will follow-up on Narcan used for chronic pain management. If there are any clarifications to be made, please email your input to Meredith Mahoney for review.

VIII. POLICIES FOR REVIEW

A. S-411, Reporting of Suspected child, Dependent Adult, or Elder Abuse/Neglect.

S-411 is being reviewed by the Subcommittee for input and will be forwarded to Base Station Physician Committee (BSPC) for final review and approval.

Discussion and comments:

1. Reference Law Enforcement (LE) legislation on contacting follow-up with request as it does influence Adult Protective Services (APS) reporting and assisted living facilities. The policy has been sent to APS for suggestions there has been no response. Meredith will follow-up on any suggested additions.
2. Reporting from agencies and report status detail:
 - APS and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) Quality Improvement (QI).
 - Agency case follow-ups, verification of filed reports and post referral information.
 - Authority to add directive will be checked as well as possible follow-up on patient reports by agencies.

Suggested changes will be made and the policy will be brought back for further review before forwarding to BSPC.

B. S-416, Supply and Resupply of Designated EMS Agencies and Vehicles.

After subcommittee review suggested changes will be made and forwarded to BSPC for final review and approval. S-416 has not been updated since 2007.

Discussion and comments:

1. References regarding exchange of medications and supplies from hospitals were removed. Discussion ensued on procurement of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies from a hospital, legal authority to resell pharmaceuticals and supplies to an agency.
2. Correct *Medical Intensive Care Unit* to *Mobile Intensive Care Unit*. This was changed to match Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with agencies. MOU should also reflect the change.

A motion was made by Mary Meadows-Pitt, seconded by Christine Well to forward S-416 suggested edits to BSPC for final approval. Motion carried.

C. A-475, Air Medical Support Utilization.

Updated version from the previous EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee was reviewed.

Discussion and comments:

1. Utilization of Air Ambulance, remove 'ALL' in the description. Safety/FAA approved helipad regulations, restrictions on off-sight landings, auto-launch and

continuity of care was discussed.

2. IV. Procedures

- A.1. move under A.4. A patient whose condition requires advanced skills, not available on a paramedic unit.
- A.4.h. Cardiovascular instability, remove statement in parenthesis.
- A.4.i. Barotrauma, change statement in parenthesis to (consider altitude.)
- C. Reference Federal regulation.
- D&E Correct list level to numbering
- D.2. Discussion on aircraft utilization during large Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI), declared disasters, or when all other primary response resources have been exhausted. Continued discussion was regarding FAA regulations and safe practices. Statements are covered under D.2.

A-475 with suggested changes will be forwarded to BSPC for review and physician approval.

IX. ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 10:29 am.

Next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is on February 11, 2016.