



County of San Diego

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
HEALTH SERVICES COMPLEX

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Epidemiology & Immunization Services
Emergency & Disaster Medical Services
HIV, STD and Hepatitis
Maternal, Child and Family Health Services
Public Health Laboratory
PH Nursing
Border Health
TB Control & Refugee Health
Vital Records

Emergency Medical Care Committee
Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee
Linda Broyles R.N., Chair/Jim Marugg, Vice-Chair
c/o Emergency Medical Services
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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE PREHOSPITAL/HOSPITAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, February 14, 2013

Members Present

Broyles, R.N., Linda – County Paramedic Agencies Committee
Carlson, R.N., Sharon - Hospital Association of S.D. & Imperial Counties
Marugg, Jim – Ambulance Association of S.D. County
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – District 2
Ochs, Ginger – San Diego County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses Association

Attendees

Eging, David - Americare
Forman R.N., Kelly – Mercy Air
Graham, Dan – Care/SDCAA
Hudnet, Carlen – Rural Metro
Wells, R.N., Christine – Scripps La Jolla

County Staff

Corte, Meredith
Eldridge, Brett
Pate R.N., Rebecca

Recorder

Wolchko, Janet

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Linda Broyles, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. Attendees introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Jim Marugg, seconded by Linda Rosenberg to approve the minutes of January 10, 2013. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions.

IV. OFF-LOAD ISSUES

There continues to be offload issues. There has been a large volume of calls. City of San Diego has added two ambulances for the flu season.

V. POLICIES FOR REVIEW

A. Changes to Policies S-830, Ambulance Provider's permit Application Process and B-833, Ground Ambulance Vehicle Requirement suggested at the last EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting were made to the drafts presented today.

1. S-830, Ambulance Provider's Permit Application Process.
 - The list of Registered Nurses (CCT providers only), are updated each year.
2. S-833, Ground Ambulance Vehicle Requirements.
 - B-833 was changed to S-833. This changes the policy reference from a Basic Life Support (BLS) policy to a system wide policy. At the last meeting the correction on Federal Specification KKK-A-1822-C was changed to -F, but those changes have been delayed until 2015. Additional changes made during the last subcommittee meeting were incorporated.
3. N-840, Non-Emergency Medical Transport Wheelchair/Gurney Van Provider's Permit Application Process and N-841, Non-Emergency Medical Transport Wheelchair/Gurney Van Service Requirements.
 - There were a few changes to update the policies to reflect current practice and permitting.
 - The non emergency medical transport application has been updated with similar changes to the BLS/ALS private ambulance applications.
 - There are 24 non-emergency ambulance companies, including Gurney van and wheel chair.
 - The Ambulance Ordinance requires non-emergency ambulances to be permitted through the County as well as MTS. Policy N-840 reference to the application process, MTS permits, and direct application to the County was clarified. Non-emergency medical transports are required to have MTS to operate in the County of San Diego.

4. S-010, Guidelines for Hospitals Requesting Ambulance Diversion. – Dr. Haynes
The policy is to reflect procedure that is already used in the system and what might be helpful in the future.
 - Language was added regarding delays in unloading and transferring care of patients.
 - Hospitals would notify the EMS Duty Officer if there is an internal disaster and if the hospital is on ED bypass/saturation in excess of 4 hours.
 - Clarify that hospitals should take patients who receive their care at that facility.
 - The person putting the hospital on ED saturation should have authorization by the hospital.
 - Hospitals are encouraged to off-load patients as quickly as possible. Off-loads taking greater than 30 minutes are considered delays.
 5. Policy discussion:
 1. The committee discussed satellite hospitals requests for diversion, emergency department saturation, and hospitals taking patients who usually receive their care or their physician practices at that facility. The final destination decision is to be made by the Base Hospital MICN/BHMD after consideration of all pertinent factors.
 2. There was clarification on N-841 regarding required documentation on inspection or on applying as a non-emergency medical transport service. Additional grammar was corrected for maintaining liability insurance, visible identification of employee name, vehicle mirror equipment requirements and securing oxygen tanks and wheelchair requirements.
- B. The Ambulance Ordinance approval has been moved to next month. The recommendation is to approve S-830 and S-833 and forward the policies to EMCC to be approved after the Ambulance Ordinance has gone before the Board of Supervisors.

A motion was made by Jim Marugg to approve S-830, S-833, N-840 and N-841 with recommended changes, seconded by Linda Rosenberg. Motion carried.

The policies will be forwarded to the full EMCC meeting after the Ambulance Ordinance is presented and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

VI. STAFF REPORT

- A. Rebecca Pate introduced Meredith Conte as a new EMS QA Specialist. Ms. Conte is from Arizona with ICU background. Ms. Conte will be the agency liaison. She will be riding along with first responders, ambulances, and will spend time observing the County radio rooms.

- B. During policy update there was discussion on aeromedical policy changes and updates. Policy A-200 that states the EMS Medical Director approves the aeromedical policies yearly will drop to a 400 level policy.

An inventory list, similar to S-103 will be developed for the aeromedical ambulances in addition to their permitting check list.

These revisions will go through the Base Station Physicians Committee (BSPC).

- C. EMS is developing a Fireline Medic policy based on the Los Angeles County and State template. Those policies will be 400 level policies and go through BSPC.

- D. There is a BLS agency meeting scheduled for March 27, 2013. An agenda and letter will be sent out.

- E. Paramedic regulations have just come out from the state and will be effective April 1, 2013. High points include carbon monoxide testing to the scope of practice, and adding CCT paramedics.

- F. Protocol taskforce continues. BSPC will have the new protocols presented for approval that will be released in May.

- G. Stroke regulations are out for 15 day comment. The state is reviewing EMS for Children (EMS-C) and STEMI regulations.

- H. iQCS is up and running. Agencies are using the iQCS system. Hospitals are having latency issues which are being addressed.

VII. SET NEXT MEETING /ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2013 at Emergency Medical Services, 6255 Mission Gorge Road, San Diego, CA 92120.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.

Submitted by

Janet I. Wolchko, Administrative Secretary III
County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services