



County of San Diego

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
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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) MEETING

Daryn Drum, Chair/ Christine Wells, R.N., Vice-Chair

Minutes

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Members Present

Abbott, Stephen – District 5
Adler, Fred – District 3
Carlson, R.N., Sharon – Hospital Assoc. of SD/Imp. County
Drum, Daryn – County Paramedic Agency Committee
Green, Katy – District 1
Maxwell, Paul – SD Co. Paramedic Association
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – District 2
Mednick, Cheryl – American Red Cross
Parr, Andy – SD County Fire District Association
Rice, Mike – Ambulance Association of San Diego County
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses Association
Wells, R.N., Chris – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators

Vacant Positions

League of California Cities
San Diego County Medical Society
San Diego Emergency Physicians' Society
Bi-National Emergency Care Committee

In Attendance

deKlerk, Maude - RCCP
Forman, R.N., Kelly – Mercy Air
Peltier, Pat - AMR
Pierce, Jodie – SD Fire Department

County Staff

Ameng, R.N., Diane
Eldridge, Brett
Haynes, M.D., Bruce
Metz, R.N., Marcy
Schoenheit, R.N., Candy
Smith, R.N., Susan
Wolchko, Janet I. (Recorder)

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daryn Drum, EMCC Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.
Attendees introduced themselves.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

There were no comments or petitions submitted.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Linda Rosenberg, seconded by Chris Wells to approve the minutes from March 24, 2016. Motion carried.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Chris Wells, R.N.

1. A-475, Air Medical Support Utilization. This policy was reviewed and forwarded to Base Station Physicians Committee (BSPC).

B. Education and Research Subcommittee – Linda Rosenberg, R.N.

Two policies were reviewed:

1. Policy P-301, Paramedic Training Program Requirements and Procedures
The policy section numbers were updated to match the current regulations.

A motion was made by Mary Meadows-Pitt, seconded by Chris Wells to approve Policy P-301. Motion carried.

2. Policy P-351, EMT Training Programs

The policy was updated to match the regulations and increase the number of required course hours for didactic and clinical. The inventory list was also updated.

A motion was made by Steve Abbot, Seconded by Linda Rosenberg to approve Policy P-351. Motion carried.

C. Disaster/Operations Subcommittee – Sharon Carlson, R.N.

Disaster/Operations Subcommittee will meet after the May 4th Statewide Exercise. During the May 4, 2016 Exercise the EMS Medical Operation Center (MOC) will be open.

1. Mary Birch Neonatal and Rady Children's Hospital Neonatal Unit will exercise evacuation.
2. There will be an emergency room surge of grammar school pediatric patients 5-11 years of age.
3. An alternate care site will be established in Carlsbad. They are looking for volunteers for breakdown and set up.
4. Hospitals will practice Triage by Resource Allocation for IN-patients (TRAIN) color coding patients to identify the type of transports they require during evacuation. Sharon Carlson is available to present TRAIN information to EMCC when the PowerPoint has been finalized.
5. Contact Les Gardina if you would like to observe at the MOC.

V. RADY CHILDRENS' LEVEL 1 TRAUMA CENTER DESIGNATION

Level 1 trauma designation includes resources available for trauma patients as well as a residency training program and research activities. Currently there are six (6) trauma designated hospitals, five (5) adult and one (1) pediatric within the County. There are two (2) Level 1 trauma hospitals, UCSD and Mercy Medical. Rady Children's is currently a Level 2 pediatric trauma center, but has met all the criteria to be designated as Level 1 trauma center by the American College of Surgeons (ACS).

The Health and Safety Code, Title 22, Chapter 7, Article 2.5, 1798.165 gives the County and EMS authority to designate trauma centers and to seek Board of Supervisors approval to change a hospital from a Level 2 to a Level 1 trauma center.

Action Item: Add EMCCs support to the Board Letter going to the Board of Supervisors for Rady Children's designation as a Level 1 trauma center.

The contract with the County will include more specific criteria in the areas of resident training and research. Criteria for Level 1 trauma center designation does not include being a base station hospital.

A motion was made by Linda Rosenberg, seconded by Chris Wells that EMCC add their support to the recommendation of Rady Childrens' as a designated Level 1 trauma center. Motion carried.

VI. AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE DESIGNATION AS AMBULANCE COORDINATOR

The Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.153 (c)(7) requires coordination of providers in the fire based prehospital emergency medical services of private ambulance companies in the County. The San Diego County Ambulance Association (SDCAA) provides the recommendation for designation of the ambulance coordinator. An Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the County formalizes the agreement for ambulance coordinator.

SDCAA recommends renewal of their MOA with AMR as the County ambulance coordinator, the contract expires on June 30th. The ambulance coordinator is activated during a disaster with the Medical Operations Center (MOC); there is no revenue compensation with the appointment.

A motion was made by Mary Meadows-Pitt, seconded by Linda Rosenberg to approve SDCAA recommendation of AMR as designated County ambulance coordinator. Motion carried.

VII. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR - Bruce E. Haynes M.D.

- A. The Heat Plan will be reviewed this year.
- B. The cardiac arrest subcommittee of base physicians meets to review the cardiac arrest survival rate in the County. The first year of Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) data has been reviewed. There are ten (10) issues being reviewed to improve patient cardiac arrest outcomes. The subcommittee meets the fourth (4th) Monday at 10 am.
- C. EMS will be releasing the Stroke System Initial five (5) Year Report including information on how the stroke care system has improved.
- D. There is a grant funding opportunity for a research project on the use of Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST) and allowing the Health Information Exchange (HIE) to establish a registry for POLST forms.
- E. The State has conducted their site review of the San Diego Fire Community Paramedicine (CP) project. It was noted that during the review there was discussion on moving the project nationwide.

- F. The Cardiac Care System ten (10) year impact report is being reviewed.
- G. There are few treatment guidelines for review this year. Performance of spinal stabilization is being discussed.
- H. The Border Patrol has arrested individuals carrying counterfeit Norco hydrocodone tablets. Fentanyl, which is more powerful than hydrocodone, is being added to the Norco tablets. The State has put out a warning regarding fentanyl contaminated counterfeit Norco tablets.
1. Comment – There were reported 14 overdoses from the tablets in Northern California.
 2. The CDC website has guidance for physicians and prescribers on the prescription of narcotics.
 3. Discussion:
 - Dosage of Narcan, safety, potency and checking respiratory rate.
 - Sheriff carries two doses of Narcan as well as the Border Patrol Search, Trauma, and Rescue (BORSTAR).
 - Within the County there has been discussion regarding a potential change from Morphine to Fentanyl.

VIII. EMS STAFF REPORT – Marcy Metz

- A. Marcy Metz thanked everyone for their support during her husband's recovery after his cardiac arrest. Santee Fire Department and Grossmont Emergency Department Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU) were commended for their care.
- B. The 5th Annual Sidewalk CPR Event is on May 18th from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. The goal is to train 4,000 individuals in compression only CPR. Eleven (11) agencies have registered; County EMS will set up a site in El Cajon. Sue Dickinson is the coordinator and has fliers for location and sign up as well as mannequin requests.
- C. The 5th Annual Strike out Stroke Event is on June 4th at 7:00 pm, Padres versus Rockies. It is a community awareness event to remind everyone to call 911 at the first sign of Stroke symptoms. The Stroke Consortium and hospitals will have information on stroke survival as well as kiosks for screening. A proclamation will be presented, there will be a press conference before the event.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- A. EMS Fees
Keep as a standing agenda item. The Public Health Services (PHS) fee schedule increases are expected to go to the Board of Supervisors next February or March to be effective July 2017.
- B. Offload Delays
1. Offload delays continue. A core operational group reviews offload system data every day submitted by prehospital and hospitals.
 2. Duty Officers use an algorithm to evaluate hospital data and to review their wall time.
 3. It was noted that regular occurrences of two (2) hour time delays has decreased. Call volume has gone down to manageable numbers.
 4. A press conference on Ambulance Offload Delay and Emergency Department

Crowding was held on March 25. Present at the news conference was Dr. Wooten, The Hospital Association, 211 as an alternative resource to seek care, a physician from managed care and Chief Butz of the Fire Chiefs Association.

X. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

Announcement:

- Dr. Jim Dunford was appointed to the State EMS Commission.
- Scripps has eliminated their System Disaster Committee. Previously the emergency preparedness and disaster response coordinator position was held by Patty Skoglund for 15 years. Scripps system disaster is now under Scripps safety.

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 am.

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled on May 26, 2016.