



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/ Linda Rosenberg, R.N., Vice-Chair

Minutes

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Members Present

Abbott, Stephen – District 5
Adler, Fred – County Supervisor District 3
Drum, Daryn – County Paramedic Agency Committee
Kahn, M.D., Christopher – District 4
Maxwell, Paul – SD Co. Paramedic Association
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – County Supervisor District 2
Mednick, Cheryl – American Red Cross (Alt)
Parr, Andy – S.D. County fire Districts Association
Rice, Mike - AMR
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses Association
Wells, R.N., Christine – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators

In Attendance

Ordille, Pete – Palomar College
Schmidt, Melissa – Mercy Air

County Staff

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

Vacant Positions

League of California Cities
San Diego County Medical Society
San Diego Emergency Physicians' Society

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daryn Drum, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:12 am.
Attendees introduced themselves.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions submitted.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mary Meadows-Pitt, seconded by Chris Wells to approve the minutes from June 25, 2015. Motion carried.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Mary Meadows-Pitt, R.N.

Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee did not meet this month. Discussion on offload delays was requested by Daryn Drum. The following discussion topics included:

1. Transporting a patient to their requested hospital home when the hospital is on bypass:
 - Determining the bypass situation and delay of back-in-service to the community.
 - Concept behind medical home: Chronic patients who are under continuous care of their physicians such as cancer patients, elderly patients and patients with ongoing problems.
 - Screening patients who are requesting transport to their medical home due to their medical insurance or due to a chronic illness or ongoing medical needs.
2. Documenting bypass information in QCS to bring awareness to hospital administration, the approval process and surge plan activation.
3. 9-1-1 calls, the best interest of the patients and the best interest of calls that are being held such as fire engines being out of service due to paramedic shortages.
4. Members of the committee recommended taking the offload issues to the Emergency Medicine Oversight Commission (EMOC) and the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial County (HASDIC).
5. Psychiatric patient holds impact in the emergency departments (EDs).
AMR has met with the City of San Diego Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT) regarding evaluating psychiatric patients and transporting them to the most appropriate facility. HASDIC has been working with the County and Behavioral Health Services on the issue of psychiatric patients in the emergency room.
6. AB 1223 Emergency medical services: ambulance transportation bill authorizing a local EMS agency to adopt policies and procedures relating to ambulance patient offload time. The bill would require the authority to develop a statewide standard methodology for the calculation and reporting by a local EMS agency of ambulance patient offload time.

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

1. City of San Diego is waiting for IRB completion.
2. City of Carlsbad has IRB approval. Kaiser has changed their Physician lead for the project. Physicians have been trained on the protocols. Anticipated start date is August 3, 2015.

C. Disaster/Operations Subcommittee

1. A Tabletop exercise regarding alternate care sites is scheduled on July 29, 2015, 8:00 – 12:30 at the Rosecrans facility. Office of Emergency Services (OES) is creating a series of videos aimed at First Responders assisting individuals that have access and functional needs such as autism. The videos will be posted online in August for educational purposes.

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

- A. Marilyn Anderson's retirement celebration is on July 31, 2015. Please RSVP by July 24, 2015.
- B. The Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) is working on updating antibiotic prophylaxis for those who have been assaulted and are working on assessments and the service operating manual.
- C. Pediatric services in hospitals are being surveyed to see if improvements are needed, especially during disasters.
- D. During the previous EMCC meeting there was an update on endovascular care for acute stroke. Recent studies have demonstrated that using a mechanical endovascular device to remove the clot from brain during acute stroke has revealed better patient functional improvement and better outcomes.

Two (2) out of 16 hospitals have been designated by the Joint Commission as comprehensive stroke centers. Ten (10) out of the 16 hospitals reported that they are equipped to do endovascular procedures.

- E. Mercy Hospital 2015 San Diego Day of Trauma is on November 6th.
- F. The California Drug Abuse Summit is November 5 and 6. A flier with information was provided. Discussion will be on inappropriate drug prescribing.
- G. US News and World reported on the evaluation of hospitals. UCSD received 12 commendations, Scripps received 4 or 5.

VI. EMS STAFF REPORT – Marcy Metz

- A. EMS new employees/open positions:
There are six (6) open positions in EMS, three (3) are out on leave, three (3) are in the disaster division and one (1) is the EMS Coordinator IT Management position.
- B. Valley Center Fire Protection District has submitted a letter of intent and application to be ALS First Responders. Application materials, MOU's and MOA's are being reviewed.
- C. The EMS Commission quarterly meeting will be in San Diego at the Holiday Inn Bayside on September 2nd.

D. The San Diego County Heat Plan monitors medical surveillance and works with the National Weather Service during weather events. The Heat Plan was activated in June and is usually active May through September. Patrick Buttron is the Medical/Health Operation Area Coordinator (MHOAC) for San Diego and the lead on the Heat Plan Taskforce. One heat related death has been confirmed by the Medical Examiner.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

On November 29, 2012 EMCC showed support for the proposed County EMS ambulance permit application, reapplication and inspection fees.

EMS and PHS fees will be submitted for approval in one resolution and will be part of the County Budget Build in January 2016. Information on the fee schedule will be provided at the next EMCC meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

EMCC Bylaws:

There are a number of EMCC agency membership vacancies, and a few memberships that will be coming up for renewal.

According to the EMCC bylaws, the Disaster/Operations Subcommittee is tasked with reviewing the bylaws and forwards any recommended changes and/or updates to the full EMCC for approval. Once the updated bylaws have been approved by the full EMCC, they will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.

IX. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled EMCC meeting will be September 24, 2015. Due to the November meeting falling on the Thanksgiving holiday and the week before that is the November Exercise, it was recommended to cancel the EMCC November meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.