



County of San Diego

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

NICK MACCHIONE, FACHE
DIRECTOR

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

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
HEALTH SERVICES COMPLEX

3851 Rosecrans Street
San Diego, CA 92110
(619) 542-4170 FAX (619) 542-4186

Border Health
California Children Services
Community Epidemiology
Emergency & Disaster Medical Services
HIV, STD and Hepatitis
Immunization
MAA/TCM Program
Maternal, Child and Family Health Services
Public Health Laboratory
Public Health Nursing
Tuberculosis Control & Refugee Health
Vital Records

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

6255 Mission Gorge Road
San Diego, CA 92120
(619) 285-6429 Fax: (619) 285-6531

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

Mike Rice, Chair/ Linda Broyles, R.N., Vice-Chair

Minutes

Thursday, October 24, 2013

Members Present

Abbott, Stephen – District Five
Adler, Fred – District Three
Bull, R.N., Pat – American Red Cross (Alt)
Broyles, R.N., Linda – Co. Paramedics Agencies Committee
Carlson, R.N., Sharon – Hosp. Assoc. of S.D./Imperial Counties
Leigh, Chief Bob – S.D. County Fire Chiefs Association
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – District two
Ponce, Cruz – American Red Cross
Rice, Mike – Ambulance Association of San Diego
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses Association
Rothlein, Lt. Jason – Law Enforcement Agencies

Vacant Positions

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

In Attendance

Boyd, Mike – Mercy Air
Forman, Kelly – Mercy Air
Francis, Allen – CA Correctional
Healthcare Services
Innis, Steve – First Choice
Ambulance
Rand, Sgt. Mike – San Diego
Sheriff
Russo, R.N., Joe – Rural Metro
Wethey, Jack – CAL FIRE/SDCFA

County Staff

Cavanaugh, Adria
Conte, Meredith
Haynes, M.D., Bruce
Smith, Susan

Recorder

Wolchko, Janet I.

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mike Rice, Chair, brought the meeting to order at 9:00 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 Linda Broyles, seconded by Fred Adler to approve the EMCC minutes from July 25, 2013. Motion carried.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee

The following policy was reviewed and approved at the EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting on October 10, 2013 and forwarded to the full EMCC for final review and approval.

1. S-836, Critical Care Transport Unit Inventory
Quantitative End Tidal CO2 was added under *Airway Adjuncts*.

A motion was made by Mary Meadows-Pitt, seconded by Linda Rosenberg to approve S-836. Motion carried.

B. Education and Research Subcommittee

There was no report.

C. Disaster/Operations Subcommittee

1. The California Statewide Medical Healthcare Disaster Exercise is November 21, 2013. The exercise has a food borne illness scenario and will cover medical surge, dialysis surge, ICU surge and infection control practices.
2. HPP12 grant year has started.
3. A trolley drill will take place at the San Diego State University (SDSU) trolley station on November 6, 2013 at 12 midnight. Scenario is a trolley derailment in the tunnel at SDSU. Patient activation is at 12:30, the drill is expected to be over at 2 am, November 7.

V. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT (Dr. Haynes)

- A.** As of October 1, 2013, the County has two aeromedical transport agency providers, Mercy Air (since 1999) and Reach Air. The County will be monitoring volume and dispatch services.
- B.** Flu season:
 - 1. The Capacity Task Force meets each year to review the high capacity document which is used as a guideline for response during the flu season.
 - 2. There have been a number of Pertussis cases.
 - 3. Visits from patients experiencing respiratory problems and respiratory problems with fever are up.
- C.** Letters of intent to participate in Community Paramedicine pilot projects have been submitted to the state. There should be a decision by November 1st regarding which agencies have been chosen for the pilot projects.
- D.** Ambulance bids are open for Request for Proposals (RFP's) in the Julian/Cuyamaca and Borrego Springs/Ocotillo Wells area.
- E.** The 30th Anniversary of the trauma system in San Diego is next year. Planning for the recognition event has started.
- F.** The Ambulance Association has mentioned concerns regarding ambulance patients detained for psychiatric evaluations under the 5150 law. County Behavior Health (BH) has an interest in clarifying the law and how it affects their operation as well.
- G.** The new Temecula Valley Hospital is located just outside the County of San Diego area in Riverside County. Temecula Valley Hospital has a basic emergency room permit. Patients that are transported by San Diego EMS in that area should be taken to a San Diego receiving hospital, unless the patient requests to be taken to Temecula Valley Hospital.
- H.** The San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) exercise was yesterday. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requires an exercise to take place even though the SONGS facility is closed.
- I.** State regulation drafts may be out in December for STEMI and Stroke.
- J.** Review of the legislative season that affects the EMS system:
 - 1. SB191, Emergency medical services will continue funding of pediatric trauma.

2. AB633, Emergency medical services civil liability allows a person to perform CPR even if their employer says they can't. Conditions are specified. AB633 may be intended for residential care facilities where staff is not allowed to perform CPR because they are not a health facility.
3. SB669, Emergency medical care: epinephrine auto-injectors clarify regulations regarding an individual, such a layperson, from purchasing and using a prescription epinephrine pen that delivers auto injection.
4. AB588, School athletics: concussions expanded the law regarding patients with concussions. Athletes in public schools may return to play after evaluation by a licensed practitioner. The same provision applies to Charter and private schools.

K. The Emergency Medicine Oversight Commission (EMOC) has an interest in the practice of safe prescribing narcotic pain medicine in emergency departments. Over use of prescription narcotics and sedatives has become a high cause of death in the United States.

1. A plan was announced to change the practice with relieving pain due to a new injury, but not to contribute to the potential for abuse, diversion and deaths. The Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) is a state data base that can be used to confirm prescriptions and reduce prescription drug deaths.
2. The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) coordinates prescription take back days where you can surrender unused prescriptions. They ask that you do not give liquids and needles. The next event is on October 26, 2013 from 10 – 2 pm. Sheriff stations and hospitals participate in the event.

L. Medical device regulation related to Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's) (Fred Adler)

- There are 27 categories of medical devices that can be found at FDA.gov.
- Since 1976, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has regulated medical devices and in vitro diagnostics such as blood tests. Medical devices include AED's.
- Last year the FDA came out with new guidelines where many devices need premarket approval (PMA). Medical devices before 1976 were given blanket approval.

M. Upcoming dates:

- November 1, 2013 – Scripps Trauma Services, The 2013 San Diego Day of Trauma, Trauma Myth Busters.
- November 7, 2013 – Emergency Medicine Oversight Commission, San Diego 8th Annual Emergency Care Summit.

VI. BOARD LETTER – ZONE 2 (Adria Cavanaugh)

The current contract with American Medical Response (AMR) for Zone 2 is expiring on June 30, 2014. As an official advisory committee, there is a request for EMCC to support the submission of a Board Letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting to continue the RFP for the Zone 2 area. The initial contract term would be four (4) years, with a four (4) one year options and one 6 month extension, if needed.

It was a suggestion to incorporate in the subject line of the Board Letter that they are ALS ambulance and paramedic services.

A motion was made by Mike Rice, seconded by Stephen Abbott to approve the Board Letter for submission to the Board of Supervisors. Motion carried.

VII. EMS FEES (Adria Cavanaugh)

Previously EMS fee increases were reviewed and approved at EMCC and were forwarded with Public Health fees to the HHSA Administrative Office for review and analysis to include full cost recovery. The HHSA Executive Office is looking at an incremental fee increase starting with \$40. in 2014 and increasing by \$10 each year through 2016.

VIII. TRAUMA PRESENTATION (Joshua Smith, Ph.D.)

A. 2012 Trauma Review:

1. The trauma rate has increased over the last three years and is expected to continue to increase.
2. There is a large jump in the total trauma patients from 2011.
3. San Diego Trends
 - Geographic pockets of increasing trauma injuries
 - Falls, self-inflicted, pedal cycle and motorcycle injuries are increasing.
4. The average length of stay increased by 4 hours from 2011.
5. Falls represent about 36% of the total burden to the Trauma System and this number is expected to increase to 40% by 2030.
6. We can expect a 47% increase in falls-related trauma cases by 2030.
7. Mortality rates continue to decline, especially among those severely injured. (ISS 15+)

8. There are 1,567 additional survivors as a result of the decline in mortality rate since 2000.

B. Discussion included:

1. Statistics on trauma resource patients upgraded to trauma.
2. Breakdown on the falls statistics.

IX. STROKE PRESENTATION (Amelia Kenner-Brininger)

- A.** Data was presented on mode of arrival, age group, discharge destination and stroke diversion impact.

B. Discussion included:

1. Neurologic intervention
2. Ultrasound theory in Stroke

X. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 am. Due to the next EMCC meeting falling on November 28, Thanksgiving Holiday and the November Statewide Exercise scheduled for November 21, it was suggested to have the next EMCC meeting on December 5, 2013.