



County of San Diego

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
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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

Frank Parra, Chair/ Chara Cote, R.N., Vice-Chair

Minutes

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Members Present

Adler, Fred – District 3
Cote, R.N., Chara – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
George, Sgt Richard – Law Enforcement Agencies
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Emergency Nurses Association
Kahn, M.D., Christopher – District 4
Lyons, Laura – American Red Cross
Marugg, James – SD County Fire Districts' Association (Alt)
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – District 2
Mercer, Kevin – SD County Ambulance Association
Molloy, Bernie – SD County Fire Districts' Association
Murphy, R.N., Mary – County Paramedic Agencies Committee(Alt)
Parra, Frank – SD County Fire Chiefs' Association

In Attendance

Alatorre, Javier – A-Med Worldwide
Caplan, Gregg – Ambu Inc
Covell, R.N., Brian – Scripps
Duffy, Jennifer – SMFD
Martin, Geoffrey – Southwestern College
Meick, Tyler – Reach Air
Pierce, R.N., Jodi – SD Fire Dept
Rios, Matt – Miramar Fire
Smith, R.N., Zechariah – AMR/CSA17
Sullivan, Don – AMR
Yates, Judith – HASDIC

Not in Attendance

Bi-national Emergency Medical Care Committee*
District 1
District 5
Hospital Association of SD & Imperial Counties
League of California Cities*
Military Agencies
San Diego County Emergency Physicians' Society*
San Diego County Medical Society
San Diego County Paramedic Association

County Staff

Christison, Brian
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Kenner-Brininger, Amelia
Pacheco, R.N., Cheryl
Parr, Andy
Smith, Ph.D., Josh
Smith, R.N., Susan
Tuteur, MD, Jennifer

*Representative positions vacant

I. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ INTRODUCTIONS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Frank Parra, EMCC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions were made. Jennifer Tuteur welcomed RNs from the Public Health Nurse Residency Program, who were in attendance, and who are the first group in their class to go through a 12-week program through the County.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions submitted.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Bernie Molloy, seconded by James Marugg to approve the March 28, 2019 minutes. Motion carried.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Chara Cote

- 1) Policy S-009: Guidelines for the prevention of transmission of contagious and contaminants – will bring back to the subcommittee.
- 2) Policy S-476: Emergency Medical Services at Special Events – went to BSPC.

B. Education/Research Subcommittee – Linda Rosenberg

Did not meet.

C. Disaster Planning Subcommittee – David Blacksberg

Did not meet.

i. Bylaws Review Meeting Set

Will meet on May 9 at 11:00am to start the Bylaws review process.

V. COUNTY REPORT (Reports)

A. Clinical Report – Kristi Koenig, MD

- 1) Surveillance –
 - a. As of April 10, over 8,000 cases with 59 deaths, compared to last year with over 20,000 cases and 318 deaths. Flu order will not be extended due to the season winding down.
 - b. The 2018 Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo is being watched. A site visit was done by CDPH at Rady Children’s Hospital, which is an assessment hospital for pediatric patients for 72 hours. The closest adult facility is Cedars Sinai in Los Angeles.
 - c. Measles outbreak – no cases reported in San Diego, though the state is at Level 3 monitoring.
 - d. Ketamine – Reminder prior to July 1 implementation: IV Ketamine must be administered slowly and the approved Concentration is 50mg/mL, although aware it is in shortage. Please notify County EMS if your agency is unable to obtain ketamine.
 - 2) Policies and Protocols –

We are entering the busy legislation season, and there are multiple bills relevant to EMS in various stages of amendment. Proposed paramedic regulations are posted on the EMSA website, and comments are due by May 20.
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- 3) Initiatives –
Cardiac Arrest Task Force has released a best practices narrated PowerPoint which is posted on our webpage. This presentation may be adopted by CE providers as a CE opportunity.

B. Administrative Report – Andy Parr

- 1) All Hazard Health Services Capacity Plan – currently at Enhanced Surveillance Level 4. There may be some changes after our Operational Core Group call today at noon.
- 2) Sidewalk CPR has been modified. Was previously one day of the year, is now all year long.
- 3) Stroke Awareness Day at the Padres Sunday, May 19th. Stroke Consortium is promoting stroke prevention, awareness and recovery. Can contact County EMS or local hospitals for additional information.
- 4) Excessive Heat Response Plan – is a coordinated effort of County departments and partner agencies in order to protect vulnerable populations from the effects of excessive heat by putting the word out such as cool zone locations and closing back county roads and trails. The plan is being updated and activity and messaging will go out in the coming months.
- 5) County EMS employment opportunities – three full-time positions for 1-year increments, with flexible work schedules, until the tasks are completed. Positions can be extended. \$40/hour with no benefits.
 - 1 EMS/Fire Liaison Temporary Expert Professional (TEP) – preferably a fire service professional.
 - 2 Special Project TEPs – seeking experienced EMS professionals to work on 1) 800 MHz radio updates and upgrades and 2) review current agency MOUs.
- 6) Credentialing & Permitting Unit – month of April, in odd numbered years, the EMT renewal process peaks, with roughly three times more EMTs requiring renewal. Working collaboratively with our partner agencies, the vast majority of these EMTs came through the process early, and we thank those agencies that helped us get the word out early.
- 7) Stop the Bleed program was an initiative by the Board of Supervisors to have tourniquets placed in County facilities. The kits are attached to AEDs throughout County buildings. County employees are being trained. The Board of Supervisors hopes that other local governments will follow their lead and place Stop the Bleed kits in additional facilities.
- 8) STEMI/Stroke and EMSC regulations have been accepted and will go into effect July 1. As a result, the next Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting on May 9 will have a long list of policies to review.
- 9) Naloxone data – County EMS receives many important requests for Naloxone data. An email with an attached form has been sent out to the agencies requesting this data to allow us to provide accurate, county-wide numbers. An email will be sent out again to ensure everyone received it.

i. Unified Service Area Report

Still in process and on track for late spring.

ii. Update on HHSA Charges and Fees

Went to the Board of Supervisors last Tuesday; was approved on the first reading and will go for the second reading next Tuesday. We anticipate this to be the last of the three-year fees escalation, and will go into effect July 1, 2019.

VI. TRANSFER OF CARE (TOC) REPORTING – Josh Smith

The County is at 60 percent compliance.

VII. SYSTEM POLICY REVIEW (EMCC Advisory Position)

None.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Transmission of 12 lead electrocardiograms

This topic was brought up at a recent CAC meeting and took it to BSPC meeting. CAC would like to see the transmission sent in advance so they can call to activate the cath lab to reduce the number of false positives. Discussions about this issue and potential policy change are ongoing and routed through the Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Base Station Physician Committee Meetings – Rescheduling

Potential change in date (same day but one week later) for June and September 2019 BSPC and PAC meetings due to conflicts of other meetings for the physicians. A revised Outlook meeting invite will go out.

B. Bypass Hours Report – Un-Blinding

This was prompted by a request we received from a hospital to provide bypass hours. This information is currently available on Resource Bridge. It is not publicly disseminated information, but it also is not secret.

This information could be released and used as a tool. Looking for input from the committee on comments. This item will come back to the next meeting for further information, discussion and advice.

C. Behavioral Health Survey

Many hospitals are voluntarily reporting Emergency Department bed holds. We have found this data interesting and drives some of our system decisions.

Amelia Kenner-Brininger presented a snap shot of bar graphs with the following data:

1. Percent of ED Holds by Type Per Month (with the following bed types: Behavioral Health, ICU, Med-Surg, Tele)
2. Number of Days ED Holds Submitted
3. Number of ED Holds Submitted and Percent of ED Beds Occupied by a Hold

This data is being collected from hospitals voluntarily once a day in the morning. Other hospitals that are not reporting are encouraged to do so. The charts will be brought to the committee from time to time to share.

X. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2019.
Meeting adjourned at 10:14 am.
