



# 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)**  
**Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Meeting**  
Chara Cote, R.N., Chair/ Mary Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Vice-Chair

**Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 11, 2018**

### **Members Present**

Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – District 2  
Murphy, Mary – County Paramedic Agencies Committee

### **Agency Representatives**

Duffy, Jenny – San Marcos Fire  
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Emergency Nurses Association  
Heiser, Chris – SD Fire Department  
Pearson, Danielle – Vista Fire  
Pierce, R.N., Jodi – SD Fire Department  
Smith, R.N., Zechariah – AMR/CSA17

### **County Staff**

Ameng, R.N., Diane  
Christison, Brian  
del Toro Cummings, Nicole  
Laugen, Gary  
Mahoney, R.N., Meredith  
Pacheco, R.N., Cheryl  
Smith, R.N., Susan

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## **1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Meeting was called to order by Mary Meadows-Pitt, Vice-Chair, at 9:32 am.
- Introductions were made.
- There were no announcements

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## **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS**

There were no public comments or petitions submitted.

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## **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting did not have a quorum; therefore, the minutes from September 13, 2018 will be on the January 10, 2019 meeting agenda for approval.

The November 8, 2018 Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting has been cancelled due to the annual Emergency Care Summit at the Kona Kai, San Diego.

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#### 4. OFF LOAD TIME DISCUSSION

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Off load time discussion is a standing agenda item. There was nothing to report. Information is being presented at the full EMCC meeting.

Members agreed to remove the 'Off Load Time Discussion' item from the Prehospital/Hospital agenda.

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#### 5. STAFF REPORT

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A. Surveillance:

1. Influenza

The flu order from November 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019 is still in effect. It is required that healthcare providers get a flu shot or wear a mask when taking care of patients.

2. Meningitis

CAHAN alert was sent out on September 28, 2018 informing participants of a meningococcal meningitis outbreak at SDSU. The San Diego County Public Health Officer recommends that all unimmunized undergraduate students enrolled at SDSU and less than 24 years of age get vaccinated.

B. The Capacity Plan:

1. Has been renamed the 'All Hazard Health Services Capacity Management Plan'

2. The updated plan has different metrics and includes transfer of care (TOC). Dr. Kahn has included it in his CE.

C. Behavioral Health:

1. A reminder was given that a patient with a psychiatric complaint does not have to go to an LPS facility. The patient should go to the closest facility available facility or preferably to their medical home. AB 2983 that was just signed by the governor clarifies that hospitals may not require a patient who is voluntarily seeking treatment to be placed on a 5150 hold as a condition of transfer. There was discussion on transport by Law Enforcement versus ambulance.

2. There is no such thing as psych bypass.

D. Regulations:

1. The STEMI and Stroke regulations were passed at the September EMS Commission meeting. Policies will be reviewed to ensure they conform to the regulations.

2. The local scope of practice application to add ketamine as a pain medication has been approved. July 1 was the start date for ketamine to be added to the treatment protocol rotation for training.

E. Radio report:

1. Base Hospitals have been collecting data for IV acetaminophen to report to the state. It is important for crews to report as well to ensure we have accurate numbers.

2. The implementation of T-460, 'Special Consideration Patient' is being closely monitored. Crews should report when they have a 'special consideration' patient for accurate data to be collected.

F. Upcoming: The Prehospital/Hospital subcommittee meeting is cancelled in November due to the annual Emergency Care Summit at the Kona Kai Resort.

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## 6. POLICIES FOR REVIEW

(Policies were reviewed, but due to lack of a quorum, all will be brought back to this subcommittee before moving to EMCC.)

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### A. S-004, EMS System Quality Improvement (Meredith Mahoney)

#### **Review and discussion:**

1. The policy description was updated.
2. Responsibilities for COSD EMS and Paramedic Base Hospitals were updated to the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) approved County of San Diego EMS Quality Improvement (QI) Plan.
3. Reporting through the Local Emergency Medical Service Information System (LEMSA), is a quality assurance issue (PAC Report).

#### Discussion:

- Review PAC voting membership. PAC member positions, equal representation from agencies and length of term for members.
  - Discussion continued regarding cases going to PREPAC and PAC, PREPAC vetting cases for PAC, evidence confidentiality and cases meeting criteria.
4. COSD EMS responsibilities
    - Develop and implement the local QI Plan based on EMSA regulations.
    - Facilitate information, identify and develop indicators for performance measurement, collect and report core measures.
    - Education and training programs to implement QI Plan.
    - Monitor and report progress.
  5. EMS Service Providers
    - Develop and implement an agency-specific written EMS QI Program.
    - Assist in the identification of indicators.
    - Dissemination of information forwarded from PAC. Clarify #3, split into two (2), Internal QI activities and dissemination of information forwarded from PAC to agency personnel.
    - Discussion on distributing information regarding trends and confidentiality.
  6. Paramedic Base Hospitals responsibilities
    - Assist in the identification of EMS QI indicators
    - Determining occurrence/incident levels.
  7. Attachment A, County's model to implement quality improvements: Observe, Orient, Decide and Act.
  8. Attachment B, Quality Assurance Occurrence Form
    - Site specifics for agencies that are not on LEMSIS.
    - Define diagnostic readings for prehospital reporting and what documents to include.
    - Hospital reporting, internal use checklist. Verifying PCR reports.

### B. S-009, Guidelines for the prevention of transmission of contagions and contaminants

#### **Review and discussion:**

1. Updates and additions related to the Health and Safety Code.
2. Compliance with the guidelines and requirements outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and the California Occupation Safety Administration regarding 'universal precautions' and protection of personnel. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
3. Includes the outline of use of the Communicable Disease Exposure Form.

4. Added C which incorporates the Health and Safety Code addition. Prehospital agencies develop and implement policies regarding immediate isolation of individuals, as requested by a Health Officer's order, who may have been exposed to biological, chemical, toxic and radiologic agents that may spread to others.
5. Recommend clarification of what agencies are allowed to draw from the patient without their permission.

C. S-803, Recovery of Prehospital Patient Care Reusable Equipment

**Review and discussion:**

1. Update procedures for prehospital agency and hospital responsibilities regarding reusable equipment recovery, release, and liability.
2. Suggested changes can be emailed to Brian Christison and will be discussed at the next subcommittee meeting.

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**7. ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING**

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The meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.

Invite Sayone Thihalolipavan, Deputy Public Health Officer, to the January Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting for discussion on Policy S-009, #C.

The next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 10, 2019.