



EMS Medical Director Report

**Emergency Medical Care Committee
April 24, 2025**



Topics



- Emerging Threats: Measles
- Novel Protocol Education Opportunity
- Cardiac Resuscitation Initiatives
 - ECPR Pilot Program
 - Revive & Survive San Diego
- Cross-Border EMS Pilot Program





1. Emerging Threats

- HSCTF plan currently at lowest level, baseline surveillance
- Close and continuous internal surveillance and monitoring for potential threats to emergency healthcare system
 - Flu season (November 1 to March 31)
 - 259 boarders and 4082 ED volume reported yesterday



Measles

2025 Outbreak (>800 cases in at least 25 states)

- Classically presents with high fever and the “3 C’s” [Cough, Coryza, Conjunctivitis]
- Contagious 4 days before until 4 days after rash
- ~25-30% hospitalized, as of mid-April
- Can remain airborne for up to two hours
- ~90% of vulnerable (unvaccinated) patients with an exposure will contract the disease
- Complications can include pneumonia, encephalitis, and subacute sclerosing panencephalitis (7-10 years after infection)
- Two doses of the MMR vaccine 97% effective for measles prevention
- Can result in "immune amnesia" (people lose ability to resist other infections)




Measles

Educational Initiatives

- *Identify*Isolate*Inform*
- EMS Medical Director's Advisory Committee (March 25)
- EMS Chiefs and agency representatives meeting with PHS leadership (April 9)
- Special Evidence-Based Medicine Lecture
 - EMS Medical Director's Advisory Committee (April 15)





BASE STATION PHYSICIANS COMMITTEE

Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM) Presentation

April 15, 2025

2:00-3:00 pm

Measles: What EMS Professionals Need to Know


Erik Berg, MD

Join by Computer		
https://sdcounty-ca.gov.zoom.us/j/86319041050?pwd=PHB82qKSCXalJBRf5sWxVVOmE8TEHR.1		
Join by phone	Meeting ID	Passcode
1-669-444-9171	863 1904 1050	954382


Dr. Erik Berg is the Assistant Medical Director for the Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch of the County of San Diego Public Health Services.

He is a practicing Emergency Physician and an U.S. Army Reservist. He earned a Bachelors' degree at Harvard College, where he studied Neuroscience and Health Policy, and an M.D. at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

He completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at LAC+USC Department of Emergency Medicine.



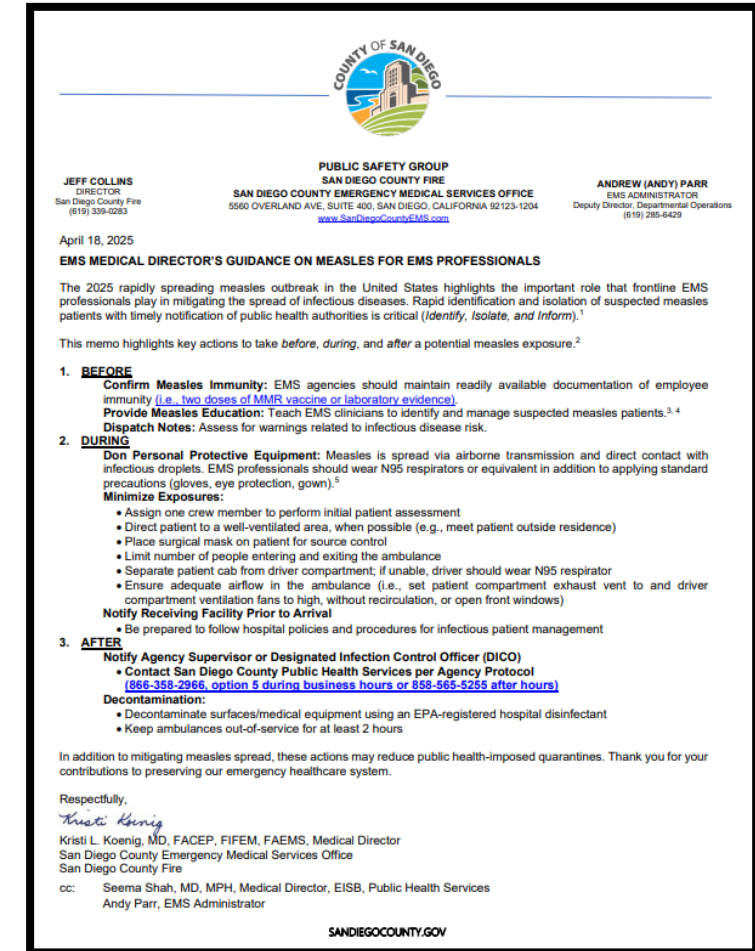
Submit your measles questions:



Measles

Guidance Memo

- Distributed to all EMS professionals via LEMSIS
- Key actions to take *before, during, and after* a measles exposure
- Educational Pearls
- “Measles: What EMS Professionals Need to Know” presentation

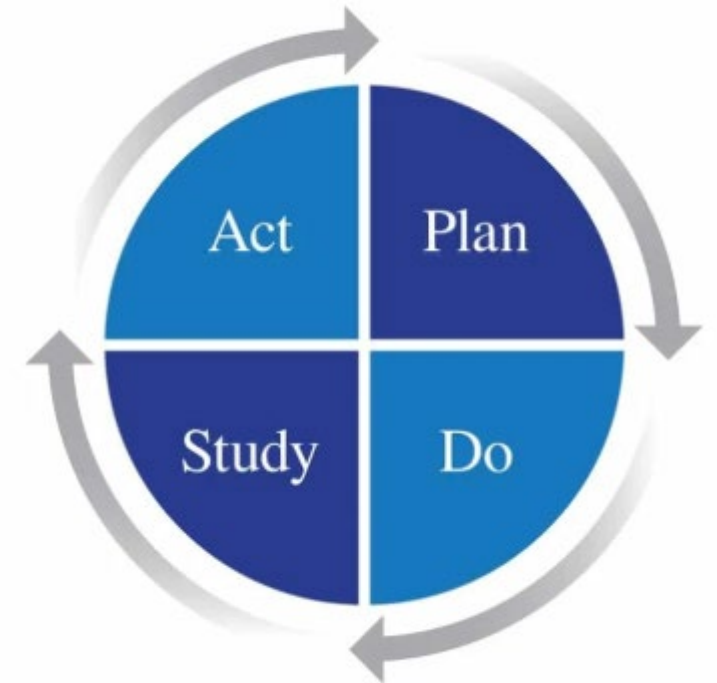


[EMS Medical Director's Guidance on Measles for EMS Professionals](#)

2. EMS Protocols

2025-2026 Revision Cycle

- Community engagement
 - Year-long process for public comment and discussion
 - Received >50 comments during Fall survey
 - Opportunity for real-time input via [EMS Mobile App](#)
- Planned distribution of materials via LEMSIS (May 1)
 - Final protocol packet
 - Protocol and policy updates presentation
 - Changelog
 - Evaluation exam
- **Novel protocol education opportunity**
 - Special Train-the-Trainer session on May 12 from 10:00 – 12:00



3. Cardiac Resuscitation Programs

A. ECPR Pilot Program (start date July 1, 2023)

- Patients meeting criteria transported to hospitals staffed/equipped to provide extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation (ECPR) using extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO)
- Participating Hospitals
 - Sharp Grossmont
 - Sharp Memorial
 - Scripps Memorial (La Jolla)
 - UCSD Medical Center (Hillcrest)
- 8 patients placed on ECMO survived to discharge with good neurologic outcomes (CPC 1 or 2)
 - 5 arrived in CPR status
 - 3 arrived with ROSC



<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/ems/ecpr-pilot-program.html>

3. Cardiac Resuscitation Programs

B. Revive & Survive San Diego

- Partnership
 - County EMS
 - UC San Diego Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Human Longevity Science
- Vision
 - To save lives, hands-only CPR will be performed in cardiac arrest patients in San Diego County
- Mission
 - To train 1 million San Diegans in hands-only CPR
- Approach
 - Revive & Survive San Diego community partners will be recruited to engage the public in hands-only CPR training
- Status
 - 451,942 trained!
 - 1,973 training sessions
 - Focus on schools



<https://revivesurvive.ucsd.edu/>



4. Cross-Border EMS Pilot Program

Collaboration with County Office of Border Health

Task Force Name

- Cross-Border EMS Task Force

Mission

- To ensure a patient-centered approach to interfacility transfers between Mexico and San Diego and Imperial Counties

Nombre del Grupo de Trabajo

- Grupo de trabajo sobre servicios médicos de urgencia transfronterizos

Misión

- Garantizar un enfoque centrado en el paciente para los traslados entre centros entre México y los condados de San Diego e Imperial



Cross-Border EMS Pilot Program

Collaboration with County Office of Border Health

- Initial focus
 - Management of patients arriving to San Ysidro Port of Entry in Mexican ambulances
- Strategic partner meeting (April 23)
 - Enthusiastic endorsement for pilot project
- Focus group meetings with CRUM, San Diego Metro Dispatch, and CBP
- Planned pilot July 1
- QI meetings for data collection, evaluation, and improvements



Questions?

