



County of San Diego

JEFF COLLINS
DIRECTOR
(858) 974-5924
Fax (858) 467-9662

PUBLIC SAFETY GROUP
SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE
SAN DIEGO COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OFFICE
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 250, San Diego, CA 92123-1239
www.SanDiegoCountyEMS.com

ANDREW (ANDY) PARR
EMS ADMINISTRATOR
Deputy Director, Departmental Operations
(619) 285-6429

April 29, 2022

To: San Diego County EMS and Hospital Community

FROM: Kristi L. Koenig, MD, FACEP, FIFEM, FAEMS, County EMS Medical Director
Gary M. Vilke, MD, FACEP, FAAEM, Chair, Base Hospital Physician's Committee

FORMATION OF THE SAN DIEGO RESUSCITATION CONSORTIUM WORKGROUP

Out-of-hospital cardiac arrest patients meeting specific criteria may benefit from rapid transport to a hospital staffed and equipped to provide extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation (ECPR) using extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO).¹ National and international EMS systems adopting this new resuscitation model have established 24/7 ECPR-capable receiving facilities for these patients.

To explore the feasibility of establishing such a system in San Diego County, we have formed the San Diego Resuscitation Consortium Workgroup. We are tasking Saul Levine, MD, to lead this Workgroup as a subgroup of the [Base Station Physicians' Committee](#).

This Workgroup will evaluate the feasibility of implementing an ECMO/ECPR program that promotes health equity in an operationalizable, sustainable, and transparent manner. This interdisciplinary Workgroup will be composed of representatives from the prehospital and hospital settings, including emergency physicians, cardiologists, and administrators. Robust quality assurance and data collection will be key components of any proposed ECMO/ECPR system.

This Workgroup will provide monthly progress reports to the EMS Medical Director during regular Base Station Physicians' Committee meetings. We look forward to receiving the recommendations of the San Diego Resuscitation Consortium Workgroup.

cc: Eric McDonald, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer
Wilma Wooten, MD, MPH, Public Health Officer
Jeff Collins, Director
Andrew Parr, EMS Administrator
Caryn Sumek, Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

¹ Yannopoulos D, Bartos J, Raveendran G, et al. Advanced Reperfusion Strategies for Patients with Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest and Refractory Ventricular Fibrillation (ARREST): A Phase 2, Single Centre, Open-Label, Randomised Controlled Trial. *Lancet*. 2020;396(10265):1807-P1816. doi:[10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)32338-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)32338-2)

Belohlavek J, Smalцова J, Rob D, et al. Effect of Intra-arrest Transport, Extracorporeal Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, and Immediate Invasive Assessment and Treatment on Functional Neurologic Outcome in Refractory Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest: A Randomized Clinical Trial. *JAMA*. 2022;327(8):737-747. doi:[10.1001/jama.2022.1025](https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2022.1025)

Soar J, Maconochie I, Wyckoff MH, et al. 2019 International Consensus on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care Science with Treatment Recommendations: Summary from the Basic Life Support; Advanced Life Support; Pediatric Life Support; Neonatal Life Support; Education, Implementation, and Teams; and First Aid Task Forces. *Circulation*. 2019;140(24):e826-e880. doi:[10.1161/CIR.0000000000000734](https://doi.org/10.1161/CIR.0000000000000734)