



County of San Diego

NICK MACCHIONE, FACHE
AGENCY DIRECTOR

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
6255 MISSION GORGE ROAD, MAIL STOP S-555
SAN DIEGO, CA 92120
(619) 285-6429 • FAX (619) 285-6531

NICK YPHANTIDES, MD, MPH
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

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 Webex Meeting

Chara Cote, R.N., Chair / Brian Covell, R.N., Vice Chair

Minutes

Thursday, October 8, 2020

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Cote, R.N., Chara – BHNC
Covell, R.N., Brian – District 2
Froelich, Dan – County Paramedic Agencies Committee
Mercer, Kevin – SD County Ambulance Association
Parra, Frank – SD Fire Chiefs’ Association
Scott, M.D., Christopher – SD County Medical Society
Wells, R.N., Chris (Alt) – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators

County Staff

Christison, Brian
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Gall, Jessica
Hrubovcak, Wendy
Pacheco, R.N., Cheryl
Pitner, Jaime
Rogers, Cody
Schoenheit, R.N., Candy

Agency Representatives

Beckert, M – Carlsbad FD
Kahn, M.D., Chris – UCSD
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – ENA
Hayflich, Vanessa – Mercy Air/AirMethods
Lord, Scott – Mercy Air
Seabloom, Lynn – Oceanside FD

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chara Cote, EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. There were no introductions or announcements made. Attendance was captured online via the chat box.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Chris Scott, seconded by Brian Covell to approve the February 13, 2020 EMCC Prehospital/Hospital minutes. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

Chris Scott proposed bringing Policy S-008: Interfacility Transfer Levels of Care document, for discussion to the next meeting. This policy is regarding interfacility transports within the county. This item will be added to next month's agenda.

IV. STAFF REPORT – Brian Christison

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- A. Flu: The Flu Season is almost upon us again. The "PHO Flu Order" is evergreen, and runs through the designated influenza season (November 1 – March 31). The flu letter requires, among other things, that healthcare personnel (including EMS Credentialed Personnel) wear a mask in patient care areas if they choose to not be vaccinated for the flu.

COVID-19 Watch is available on the www.coronavirus-sd.com website. The COVID-19 Watch is a weekly summary of statistical information on the COVID-19 Pandemic in San Diego. (There's a link on the COVID-19 sit report too)

Agencies wishing to contract with the County to assist the Public Health Department: FD Capability may be needed to assist the Public Health Department with Paramedics and EMTs. This help could potentially be participating in Community Flu Vaccination Clinics (PODs), participating in COVID-19 testing events, and potentially assisting with Community COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics (when the vaccine is available). Those agencies who are interested, please use the EMS notifications email, and we'll pass your interest on to the Public Health Department/County Purchasing and Contracting.

- B. Capacity Plan: The All-Hazard Health Service Capacity Management Plan is currently at a Level 1 Full Activation. EMS Epidemiologists are carefully monitoring the Healthcare and EMS system metrics. The current Plan Level is prominently posted on the EMS Section's webpage at SanDiegoCountyEMS.com.

The Health Services Capacity Task Force held their annual meeting on Tuesday, September 27. All task force members, especially those on the Operational Core Group, are heartedly thanked for their continuing attendance and cooperation

- C. County EMS Duty Officer: As discussed at prior EMCC meetings, the San Diego County EMS Duty Officer has a new phone number for notifications. All notifications will be processed through the San Diego County Monte Vista Interagency Command Center (MVICC) instead of the County's call center.

The new EMS Duty Officer phone number is: 619-588-0397.

In September 2020, the EMS Duty Officer received 14 calls.

All agencies are recommended to save the new Duty Office phone number.

- D. Non-operational County owned EMS radios need to come home! – All non-operational County owned EMS 800mhz radios are being recalled by the County. We are searching for Mobile and Portable Radios with a Property of the County of San Diego on it. We will accept equipment that is broken or damaged, if the battery is missing or if the radio is just not working...The radio just needs to come home, no questions asked. EMS is specifically looking for older ASTRA W7 radios that have recently stopped working which was caused by the most recent upgrade to the County's RCS System. To make it easy to return this equipment, you can drop off radio equipment in the lobby of our EMS Office, give the equipment to an EMS staff member, leave the equipment at RCS, or we'll even come pick up the equipment. If you need more information on the County owned EMS radio recall (and/or which radios are being recalled) please contact the EMS radio desk at 619-285-6405 or the PHPR/EMS Duty Officer at www.SDEMSDO@sdcounty.ca.gov

V. POLICIES FOR REVIEW

- P-801: Ad hoc Committee Status Report (Dr. Chris Kahn)

Plan to meet immediately after EMCC on October 22, 2020.

- S-010: Guidelines for Hospitals Requesting Ambulance Diversion (Dr. Chris Scott)

This draft policy had been approved in February 2020 to move forward to the full EMCC group. However, there are recommendations/changes from Trauma standpoint.

With the subcommittee's approval, County EMS proposes further changes to the definitions to clarify offload time and be more consistent with state's definition of ambulance patient offload time and ambulance patient offload delay, with the expectation in the future to also refresh S-610 to reflect those standardized terms.

ACTION: Anyone who is interested in reviewing the new changes, are asked to put their name in the chat box. Brian Christison will send out the changes to the interested parties, and will communicate with Chris Scott via email. This policy will be brought back to next month's Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting on November 12, 2020.

VI. ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 AM.

Next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is on November 12, 2020.