



# 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**  
**Chara Cote, R.N., Chair/ Mary Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Vice-Chair**  
**6255 Mission Gorge Road, San Diego, CA 92120**  
**Thursday, April 12, 2018 – 9:30 am**

## Minutes

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### IN ATTENDANCE

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#### Members

Cote, R.N., Chara – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinator (Alt)  
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – District 2  
Parra, Frank – SD Fire Chiefs’ Association  
Scott, MD, Christopher – SD County Medical Society

#### County Staff

Christison, Brian  
Kirkpatrick, Jim  
Schoenheit, R.N., Candy  
Smith, R.N., Susan  
Wolchko, Janet I. (recorder)

#### Agency Representatives

Hinton, William – Mercy Air  
Lord, Scott – Mercy Air  
Mercer, Kevin – AMR  
Peltier, Patricia – AMR  
Smith, Zechariah – AMR/CSA-17

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### 1. Call To Order/Introductions/Announcements

Chara Cote, EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:38 AM. Attendees introduced themselves.

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## 2. Approval Of Minutes

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A quorum of members was not present to approve the minutes from March 8, 2018.

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## 3. Public Comments/Petitions

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There were no public comments or petitions submitted.

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## 4. Offload Time Discussion

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Hospital clerk and hospital technicians' involvement with documenting transfer of care (TOC) was discussed. The topic was also mentioned at the County Paramedics Agency Committee (CPAC). The intent was that TOC responsibility is shared between the hospital and EMS, but the policy currently states the button should be pushed by the receiving nurse or physician.

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## 5. Capacity Plan – Jim Kirkpatrick

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- There is continued discussion and an agreement to update the plan.
  - There will be discussion at the division managers meeting tomorrow.
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## 6. Staff Report – Jim Kirkpatrick

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A. Ongoing topics and reminders will be posted on the EMCC agenda sidebar.

B. Influenza:

- 1) 20,000 cases have been reported in the county.
- 2) The CDC mentioned there could be another wave of flu cases.
- 3) Weekday monitoring of the indicator data, ILR information and off load times continue.
- 4) The Public Health Officer extended the flu order to April 30, 2018. Healthcare workers are required to either have a flu shot or wear a mask.

C. Updated TOC data is posted.

D. EMS fee increases:

- 1) Fee increases start July 1, 2018 for EMT certification/renewal, MICN authorization/reauthorization and Paramedic accreditation/reaccreditation.
- 2) As of July 1, 2018 fees will increase from \$40 to \$63 and increase to \$83 July 1, 2019.
- 3) A reminder was given to maintain authorization and accreditation and to not let

the expiration date lapse.

- 4) An inquiry was made regarding the maintenance fee. Response was that there will be an initial fee but the intent is that there will not be a fee for maintenance. The fee structure has to be approved by the County Board of Supervisors.

E. LEMSIS migration is June 19, 2018.

F. Morphine shortage:

- 1) Fentanyl is being added as an additional pain management alternative. The fentanyl protocol has been released. The official start date is July 1, 2018. Agencies need to begin using fentanyl as an alternative to morphine.
- 2) IV acetaminophen has been approved in the state as a local optional scope of practice medication. The IV acetaminophen pain management protocol is being discussed with a probable start date of July 1, 2018. This will be a local scope option and requires base hospital contact.
- 3) Ketamine was discussed at the San Diego Scope Committee meeting. Ketamine is currently looked at as a trial study in three LEMSAs in the State. Use of ketamine as an additional pain management alternative will go before the EMS commission in June.

G. Pain management protocol changes will occur July 1, 2018. Training and provider agencies will provide the training. Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators are preparing an instructional PowerPoint. A tentative date has been set for a summary meeting on April 26, 2018, 2:00-3:30 at EMS.

H. Regional Communication System (RCS) radio changes, upgrades and improvements are in process. January 2019 P25 Phase 1 re-banding will be implemented. There are approximately 600 EMS radios. A list of radios will be distributed.

I. EMT regulations:

Training institutions are required to begin teaching the new epi, narcan and blood glucometer testing EMT skills. EMTs that renew July 1, 2019 or after must submit proof they have been trained in epi, narcan and blood glucose testing by a continuing education (CE) or approved EMT training program. The skills completion verification form was updated July 1, 2017.

J. Thursday, May 17, 2018 is 'Sidewalk CPR' day. The community will have the opportunity to learn compression only CPR by participating agencies. EMS contact for information on the 'Sidewalk CPR' event is Sue Dickinson.

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## **7. Out of Hospital Births – Jim Kirkpatrick**

Information and subcommittee input and guidance:

- San Diego County has approximately 60 out-of-hospital births each year.
  - Parents have 30 days to obtain a birth certificate for their child.
  - Office of Vital Records medical documentation needed to issue a birth certificate includes the delivery address, date and time, and medical provider (Policy 166). Discussion on electronic documentation, form and form location options included adding an attachment to the policy and contact information to obtain medical documentation.
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## **8. Policies for review**

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A quorum of subcommittee members was not present. Members reviewed and discussed the following policies:

### T-712, Trauma Center Bypass

- Updates were based on bypass requirements. Bypass time periods were reworded and some were changed in the policy.
- Trauma personnel will enter the initial time and criteria for bypass into LEMSIS. (Replaces QCS)
- Discussion included the wording regarding trauma center bypass less than 5% on a monthly basis. Policy will go to the Medical Audit Committee (MAC) for review.

### S-XXX, Emergency Medical Services at Special Events

- The policy review will be on the April EMCC agenda.
  - The subcommittee discussed scope of practice skills performed by a paramedic or AEMT affiliated with a County of San Diego approved ALS provider who is staffing a special event as an EMT.
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## **9. Adjournment/Next Meeting**

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Meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am.

The next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is May 10, 2018 at 9:30 am.