

RPAC Minutes
November 17, 2006

Welcome and Announcements

Ellen Bobchin called the meeting to order at 0854.

Base Physician

Karl Feng, MD, Base Physician Liaison was not present to report, however, he did inform Ellen that there was no Base Docs meeting.

Great Save

“Great Save” for Fullerton 5 on October 5th. Rick Riley, Jay Van Druten, crew of Fullerton 5 had a 23 year old man with multiple stab wounds to chest and upper back. Scene time to UCIMC was 13 minutes. Pt had cardiac tamponade, hemo-pnuemo, kidney laceration, and was released 5 days later.

CPAC

Todd McClung gave report. Kaiser – Irvine is scheduled to open October 2007. The CDC is recommending MMR vaccines for all EMS providers. Save the date May 17, 2007 for “No Fear” conference. During St. Jude recent “Code Yellow” they were able to find hospital beds and transportation for all patients admitted at St. Jude.

DEAG – War in Iraq has brought about a study on tourniquets and possibly re-implementing their use. There is also a study on the intubation stylet and its possible use in the near future.

EMS

Greg Boswell, RN, OCEMS Program Director was present and reported. During the recent bomb threat at St. Jude, he was in contact with Vicki Sweet throughout the day. It was verified that they could evacuate the patients admitted here in 30 minutes to other hospitals and ambulances were available to transport. UCI has received its re-certification as a Trauma Receiving Center for another 3 years. West Medical Center is the 12th CVRC in OC. Greg referred to a recent article in the OC Register showing a study in the New England Journal of Medicine of OC hospitals compared to N.E. The Journal stated that 101 to 105 minutes was the average for N.E. with only 35% of patients with less than 90 minutes from door to balloon. However, in OC 86% of patients have door to balloon time of less than 90 minutes.

Disaster Preparedness – HIRSA Grant Money that was earmarked for Bio Terrorism, Pandemic Flu, CVC vaccinations and 1 other program has been designated to OC.

One of the applicants has accepted the position of Medical Director which was recently vacated by Dr. Haynes. Greg was not yet ready to announce the name but will be sending out an email possibly later today with that announcement. There is also a new division in the OCHCA of Health Disaster Response. Terre Duensing will be the manager and EMS will be under the direction of this new division.

The Redinet Disaster drill at Fountain Valley Regional Hospital recently was a success. They simulated a bleacher collapse at a nearby sporting event and all Fire departments attended. The Ops Chiefs evaluated the drill to help finalize policy on MCI's. The Influenza Drill on 11/3 helped to vaccinate 3000 people at 3 sites in OC. It is recommended that all healthcare providers get the vaccine.

Diversion hours still remain low despite influenza season being upon us. The CDC uses this number to track the number of cases.

Angels Baseball game for EMS week will not be during that week. The game against the Yankees is blocked out for groups so the game and tailgate festivities will likely be on June 2 next year. More information will follow as the dates are confirmed.

There were complaints recently that Mercy Air was spending too much time on scene. An audit showed that 4 out of 5 take-offs were less than 10 minutes after arriving on scene. They will continue to QI any lengthy scene times.

Bill 1773 was recently signed as law by the Governor. This bill will allow counties to assess penalties on certain vehicle codes to be directed to EMS and Pediatric Specialty services. There is a potential for \$500K per year, which will possibly be used for the electronic PCR system.

Bev Nighswonger reminded everyone to check the OCEMS website for conference information.

OCC

No one present to report.

Base Coordinator Report

Ellen announced that there are 2 new Fullerton students starting today training in the ED. She asked all paramedics to be sure to report any changes in sequence number if the form is changed for any reason. Reminded all MICN's to be sure to get sequence number (2 letters, 6 numbers) from paramedics.

STEMI patients coming to St. Jude have an average time of 45 minutes (1 in 34 minutes) from door to balloon. The MICN's may be asking for the patient's cardiologist or primary care physician during transport to expedite care.

Airway audit show 96% compliance. The 3rd quarter audit was on 902-H to 10-97 to be sure paramedics are contacting in timely manner. The 4th quarter audit will be on 12 lead use.

Receiving Center Reports

La Palma

Alan Heilpern, MD, announced that they have new ownership. This should be good for La Palma as they plan to upgrade the ER services and double the number of beds. Patients are currently in and out of the ED in less than 2 hours.

Placentia Linda

Carla reported that they are preparing for JACHO survey next month.

St Jude

Ruth Carlstedt, RN reported that the new tracker system is in place. They are trying to assign beds prior to arrival – Ambulance should look on screen for assignment when bringing in patients. Continue to have construction issues, thanks for all the patience.

UCI

Greg Boswell announced that due to the new construction there has been a change to parking when bringing patients. Asked all fire and ambulance to read policy from Carerie.

Fire Department Reports

Brea

Steve Wood BC, offered congratulations to Todd McClung and his wife on the birth of their triplets. Congratulations – and Good Luck! AED evaluation is complete and a decision should be made to purchase soon. There will be more MCI training with base hospital feedback. Chris Guerrero to lead research. With the discontinuance of Northnet training, Brea should have an EMS CE provider number soon. New ambulance service (MEST) arrived on scene recently for freeway TC. Steve asked all paramedics to be cautious as the company is NOT an emergency service. Cal Chiefs leadership academy and conference will be next year in January in Riverside with many vendors including a speaker for Electronic PCR.

Fullerton Fire

Brad Hockersmith announced that they currently have 2 people in training and 3 candidates. Since there is no more Northnet training, Fullerton will begin in-house training. A captain from each shift will be responsible. Mark Huckabey will be Airway; Brad Hockersmith will be Skills. The county will issue cards.

There has been a misunderstanding with Fullerton PD regarding Psych patients needing to get a medical clearance before going to ETS (without prior contact). PD can make evaluation without clearance. Janet Magnani will send Police Chiefs Association guidelines for clarification.

LA / La Habra

No one present to report

Ambulance Companies

Care

Marv Schilling present to introduce Alison Skinner as new representative in field.

Mercy

No one is present to report.

The speaker today is Dr. Don Greco. He will speak on the Complicated “Simple” Hip Fracture. Everyone is invited to attend. CE is given from EMS and the BRN. The RPAC meeting is adjourned at 0940.

Respectfully submitted

Ellen Bobchin, RN, MICN, SJMC Base Coordinator