



**Western Medical Center Santa Ana
Regional Paramedic Advisory Committee
Minutes
January 22, 2009**

Attending

WMCSA

Nguyen Khuu MD
Joe Kim MD
Brenda Scapellati EN MICN
Gagandeep Grewal MD
Tammi McConnell RN MICN
Sandra Kornbluth RN MICN
Jessica Fedak RN MICN
Michelle Schlueter RN MICN
Kathy Kelly RN MICN
Janet Hewson RN
Stewart Brash MD
Larissa Zeltser D.O.
Micheline Ghurabi MD

Santa Ana Fire Dept.

Glen Dolin EMT-P
Mike DeLeon EMT-P
Miguel Maldonado EMT-P
Kevin Kron EMT-P
Scott Townlet
Jeff Talmage Paramedic Coordinator
Jim Larsen EMT-P
Cameron Rossman EMT-P
Brian Sandlin EMT-P
Joe Aguirre EMT-P
Richard Sandford EMT-P

OCEMS

Sam Stratton MD

OCC

Elaine Hernandez
Pat Campobasso

Doctors Ambulance

Phil Robinson

OC Fire Authority

Greg McKeown EMT-P

Anaheim Fire Dept

Rob Stuart EMT-P

Coastal Community Hospital

Carol Frank RN

Kaiser Irvine Medical Center

Terri Siaca RN ED Manager

Introductions/Announcements

- WMCSA has five new MICNs who are currently being precepted on the radio. They are Isabel Malone, Kristin Lott, Dawnmarye Stobaugh, Tonie Dao, and Fay De La Cruz. It is expected that they will be directing radio calls on their own by the middle of February.
- With sadness, it was announced that Howard Adams RN passed away on January 17, 2009. Howard was the principal instructor in the paramedic program at Saddleback College for many years. He was an instructor for 30 years. Many Orange County medics had Howard as an instructor. Howard spent much time with his students in the emergency department at WMCSA. The Orange County EMS community has lost a wonderful and valuable member.
- Steve Schepper MD was introduced to the group. Dr. Schepper worked in the emergency department at WMCSA prior to 2000. He has returned to work with us again on a part time basis. He has many years of emergency department and EMS experience. We welcome him back.

Old Business

- The emergency department at Irvine Medical Center closed on January 9, 2009. The rest of the facility closed on January 15, 2009. It is expected that the facility will re-open in 12-18 months as an acute care facility affiliated with Hoag Hospital. In the meantime, the nearest receiving centers are Saddleback and Kaiser, Irvine. Kaiser will accept all EMS patients, including those who do not have Kaiser insurance. The nearest CVRC is WMCSA.
- Anaheim General Hospital is not designated as a PRC at this time. They are working diligently to regain their PRC status.

New Business

- OCEMS Updates Spring 2009 classes have begun. WMCSA classes will begin on March 3, 2009. The last class throughout the county will be held on March 20, 2009. All MICNs and medics must attend one 2 hour session. A list of dates and times for WMCSA classes is posted in the radio room. In addition, there is a complete schedule of classes throughout the county posted in the radio rooms of all base hospitals. You are welcome to attend at any location. Implementation will be March 16, 2009.
- MCI training drills have also begun. OCFA medics are training on most days, with scheduled base hospitals on different days. WMCSA will drill on Tuesdays with OCFA. In addition, all WMC MICNs will have individual ReddiNet training in February and March during their scheduled radio time.

Reports

Kathy Kelly RN MICN - WMCSA Base Hospital Coordinator

- ASA reminders
- Dose of ASA taken prior to arrival of medics must be documented in the "tx pta" box on the BHR.
- 2 additional 81 mg ASA tablets shall be given, per base hospital order, for STEMI patients.
- If patient did not take ASA immediately prior to arrival of medics, ASA should be given, even if the patient states he takes it as part of his daily routine.
 - Transcutaneous pacing and EZ-IO trials are being conducted throughout the county.
 - Reminder - Once BH contact has been made, all further orders shall come from the base.

Janet Hewson RN - Director of Trauma Services, WMCSA

- Number of trauma patients for 2008 was 2 more than in 2007.

Pat Campobasso - OCC Training Officer

- Pat introduced Elaine Hernandez, who has taken Jerome Cheung's place as Communications Coordinator.

Terri Siaca RN - ED Manager Kaiser, Irvine

- Terri discussed the impact of IMC closure. Kaiser, Irvine is seeing more patients. She reminded all that Kaiser accepts all EMS patients, regardless of insurance status.

Carol Frank RN - ED Manager Coastal Community Hospital

- ED personnel at CCH have been holding admitted patients in the ED because of MRSA testing.

Sam Stratton MD - OCEMS Medical Director

- January diversion hours are low, indicating a mild or late flu season.
- Dr. Stratton stated that SNRC will be designated in March.
- Closure of Irvine Medical Center has caused a significant increase in patient visits at Kaiser, Irvine and Saddleback Hospital emergency departments, as was expected.
- Wall Time - Several incidents of prolonged wait time for BLS patients have been reported to OCEMS. Discussion included the impact the extended wait time has on county resources and responsibility for patient care when patients are on a paramedic or ambulance guerny within the hospital. It was explained by Dr. Stratton that once the patient arrives at the hospital, it is the responsibility of the hospital staff to care for the patient. He also emphasized the importance of communication between hospital and prehospital personnel to ensure adequate patient care.
- Anaheim General Hospital - AGH has lost its Joint Commission accreditation status. As a result, it's status as a paramedic receiving center has been revoked by the county. The facility is working towards meeting criteria so that it can be considered for redesignation as a PRC.

Meeting Adjourned

Education - Stroke/Neurology Triage Criteria

Liza Ros MSN APN CNRN - WMCSA CNS Stroke Coordinator
