



EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE

Regular EMCC Meeting:
Friday, February 24, 2012 – 9:00 a.m.
Location: 405 W. Fifth Street – Conference Room 433
Santa Ana, CA 92705

MINUTES

MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE			
MEMBERS	CATEGORY REPRESENTED	HCA STAFF	REPRESENTING
☐ vacant	- Board of Supervisors, First District	Holly Veale	Medical Services Ops. Mgr.
☒ Patrick Powers	- Board of Supervisors, Second District	Terre Duensing	HDM Division Manager
☒ Nick Anas, MD	- Board of Supervisors, Third District	Sam Stratton, MD	EMS Medical Director
☒ Jon Gilwee	- Board of Supervisors, Fourth District	Tammi McConnell, RN	EMS Program Manager
☐ vacant	- Board of Supervisors, Fifth District	Ken Miller, MD	EMS Asst. Medical Director
☒ Monica Ruzich	- American Red Cross, OC Chapter	Laurent Repass	EMS QI Coordinator
☒ Julie Wanstreet, RN	- Orange Coast Emergency Nurses Assn.	Mike Noone	EMS BLS Coordinator
☐ Mary Botticella	- Hospital Association of So. Calif.	Jane Eldler, RN	EMS ALS Coordinator
☒ Michelle Tom, MD	- Society of OC Emergency Physicians	Lydia Mikhail	HDM Risk Base Planning Mgr.
☒ Philip Davis	- Ambulance Association of OC	Eileen Endo	Office Specialist
☒ Steve Nagel	- League of California Cities	Others Present	
☐ Peter Bastone	- OC Business Council	Chief Scott Brown	OCFA
☐ Mark Pulone	- OC City Managers Association	Greg Boswell, RN	OCFA
☒ Chief Kris Head	- OC Fire Chiefs Association	Jim Ruane	OCFA
☒ Bryan Hoynak, MD	- OC Medical Association	Bill Weston	Ambulance Association
☒ Chief Paul Henisey	- OC Police Chiefs/Sheriffs Assn.	Phil Robinson	Doctor's Ambulance
☐ vacant	- OC Senior Citizens Advisory Council	Walt Lynch	Lynch Ambulance
		Chief Tony Coppolino	Fountain Valley Fire Dept.
		Chief David Thomas	Santa Ana Fire Dept.
		Randy Yergensa	LLU
		Sean Hakam	LLU

1. **EMCC MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

2. **INTRODUCTIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MSC The October 28, 2011 minutes were approved as written.

4. **OCEMS REPORT / CORRESPONDENCE**

OCMEDS Update: reported by Laurent Repass

The ePCR Project – Several agencies both public and private are in the process of testing the system and reporting back with their feedback.

The hospital dash board – Most of all the 25 paramedic receiving centers have been brought up on the hospital dash board (the mechanism by which paramedic receiving centers get their copy of the patient card report). Hospitals are adding all of their staff to this process and our trainer has been going out to the hospitals to train the personnel.

Base Hospital task force – The Orange County Base Coordinators have put together a task force to define the future base hospital report form to replace the paper base form. The form has to be designed and anticipate being completed by the end of the year.

Trip to Minnesota – This month went to meet with the vendor Image Trend to design the STEMI and stroke registry so that in the future the paper reports will be electronic reports.

Disaster Preparations: *reported by Terre Duensing*

Finishing last year's after action report for Golden Guardian, will be working on next year's Golden Guardian exercise which is a continuation of the earthquake 2009 exercise second operation period and will look at what we need to improve upon on all the jurisdictions.

Hospital Diversion: *reported by Dr. Samuel Stratton*

The report takes a look at the comparison of January and February 2011. Our diversion is much less than Los Angeles and Riverside Counties, but little higher than San Diego's. Two policies regarding diversion has gone out to public comment and is posted on the EMS webpage for comments. They are 310.10 Determination of Appropriate Facility and 310.96 Guidelines for Hospitals Requesting bypass of Patients.

2011-2012 Influenza Season: *reported by Dr. Samuel Stratton*

In the ERs there has been an increase in influenza "A" recently this week, hitting late this season and since it is hitting early spring, hopefully we will get away with not having a heavy flu season. Epi has reported that there has been an increase in the stomach virus and a meningitis outbreak among young adults in L.A. and Orange Counties.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

Ground Ambulance Service Basic Life Support (BLS) Rates Adjustment and Advanced Life Support (ALS) Rate – *reported by Tammi McConnell*

At the December 13, 2011 Board of Supervisors meeting the Board approved the adjustment in the ambulance rates and the systems was notified. The Board voted to use the methodology of using the CPI for L.A. County, Riverside and Orange County areas but not adjusting by 150%. The Board has requested a report from the Health Care Agency regarding the history of ambulance rates for other counties and states for a meeting in March and we should know by the April's meeting any changes to the current methodology for ambulance rates.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Election of EMCC Slate of Officers for Calendar Year 2012**

Chief Kris Head from the nominating committee reported the nominees for slate officers for calendar year 2012, they are Jon Gilwee for Chair and for Vice-Chair, Julie Wanstreet and Dr. Michelle Tom.

Election results: Jon Gilwee elected for EMCC Chair
Dr. Michelle Tom elected for EMCC Vice-Chair

- **Santa Ana Fire – Orange County Authority:** *reported by Chief Scott Brown*

Members were provided with a matrix regarding the methodology on the transition of Santa Ana Fire Department to the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA). On February 21, 2012 the City of Santa Ana City Council approved contracting fire, dispatch and emergency medical service with OCFA. No fire stations will be closed, ALS service delivery will be increased to 14 ALS units from 6 ALS units, and will increase medics from 16 to 23 medics. Fire and emergency services contract will go into effect April 20, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. The RFP was posted 2/23/12 for selection for temporary provider during the Phase 1 until a formal provider is selected.

MSC Approve the proposed enhanced paramedic service matrix per the approved contract with Orange County Fire Authority.

- **Fountain Valley Fire – Paramedic Assessment Unit (PAU) Upgrade:** *reported by Chief Tony Coppolino*

In the city of Fountain Valley at Station 1 we have 2 paramedic engines and a PAU truck. We are requesting to upgrade the PAU truck to an ALS unit which is the second unit out of Station 1. When engine 31 which is a paramedic unit goes out on a call the truck has to back fill to take the next call and another PAU unit has to go along to provide the ALS service. We want to upgrade the truck to an ALS unit so no longer have to attach an additional unit to respond to the ALS call.

MSC Approve the Upgrade of Paramedic Assessment Unit to and ALS Unit

- Dr. Stratton reported that the city of Brea will be going with the metro fire net dispatch center and closing their medical dispatch with their police department. Metro fire net dispatch is the dispatch center for the cities of Fullerton, Huntington Beach, Orange, Anaheim, Newport Beach, Fountain Valley and Garden Grove. OCEMS reviews the dispatch center annually.

7. EMCC ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS

- A. Facilities Advisory Committee: *reported by Dr. Stratton*
Discussed the proposed changes in the diversion policies. Current policy is that if a hospital is closed for diversion and a patient request a hospital as their home hospital the hospital is forced to take that patient. Proposing that the hospitals will no longer have those patients forced on them by clarifying diversion as being a hospital that the ER department is not safe to take more patients. There will be no change in the specialty patients (stroke, cardiac and trauma). If a hospital is declared as unsafe ambulance patients outside of the 911 system and critical care patients should not be taken to hospitals closed for diversion.
- B. County Paramedic Advisory Committee: *reported by Dr. Stratton*
Updating the EMS system focusing on the field with introduction of standing medical orders. This is an expansion of the ALS no contact routine daily activities in the field with medical standing orders paramedics can use. This will help out the call volume with Base hospitals where the paramedics can make direct contact with the receiving center to move the patients more quickly in the field to the receiving center.
- C. Education & Training Advisory Committee: *reported by Mike Noone*
Sent out an email regarding the next meeting on April 4, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. Will be discussing the draft c-spine policy and education hours.
- D. Transportation Advisory Committee: *reported by Mike Noone*
Email will go out in a couple of days on the reminder for the next meeting on April 25, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. Will be discussing the policy on new ambulance inventory. Status on the current ambulance is that we have licensed 520 ambulances with 29 companies. Have been getting about one request a week for an application and the existing ambulance companies are adding about ten new ambulances a month. Could see by the end of the year 700 ambulances with 40 companies.

- E. Trauma Operations Committee: *reported by Tammi McConnell*
Volume has increased. Waiting for the results from the triage study looking at the system before implementation of the March 2011 triage guidelines and directly afterwards to see if this is the correct criteria to be using in Orange County and how it effects patient outcomes. UCI will be up for trauma verification by American College of Surgeons in June of this year.
 - F. Quality Assurance Board – no meeting
- 8. **MEMBER COMMENTS**
Terre Duensing announced her retirement from the county effective March 23, 2012, after 27 years.
 - 9. **PUBLIC FORUM** (non-agendized)
 - 10. **NEXT Meeting** – April 27, 2012, 9:00 a.m.
 - 11. **ADJOURNMENT**