



COUNTY PREHOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 14, 2022 – 1:00 p.m.
Meeting held via Zoom Video Conferencing

MINUTES

MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS

- ☒ Theodore Heyming, MD
- ☐ Jon Cline MD
- ☒ Robert Granata, MD
- ☐ Matthew Hunt, MD (excused)
- ☒ Iksoo Kang, MD
- ☐ Eric McCoy, MD (excused)
- ☒ David Ngo, MD
- ☐ Kelly Unger, MD (excused)
- ☐ Robert Katzer, MD
- ☐ Claus Hecht MD
- ☒ Shira Schlesinger, MD

REPRESENTING

- BHPD – Children's Hospital of Orange County
- BHPD – Mission Hospital
- BHPD – Orange County Global Med. Ctr.
- BHPD – Hoag Hospital
- BHPD – St. Jude Medical Center
- BHPD – UCI Medical Center
- BHPD – Huntington Beach Hospital
- BHPD – Huntington Beach Hospital
- Anaheim Fire & Rescue
- Orange County Fire Authority
- Newport Beach Fire Department

MEMBERS

- ☐ Capt. Brandon Grinstead
- ☒ Jeff Lopez, EMT-P
- ☐ Dave Barry, EMT-P
- ☒ Patrick Dibb
- ☐ Patty Glead, RN (excused)
- ☐ Justin Horner, EMT-P
- ☒ Kim Nichols, RN

REPRESENTING

- Orange County Fire Authority
- Representing Huntington Beach Fire Dept.
- Anaheim Fire & Rescue
- EMT Training Programs
- Paramedic Training
- Fire Chiefs' EMS Committee
- ED Nursing Leadership

- ☒ Julia Afrasiabi, RN
- ☒ Ruth Clark, RN
- ☒ Laura Cross, RN
- ☒ Meghann Ord, RN
- ☒ Christine Waddell, RN
- ☒ Heidi Yttri, RN
- ☒ Kim Zaky, RN

- BHC – UCI Medical Center
- BHC – Orange County Global Med. Ctr.
- BHC – Mission Hospital
- BHC – Hoag Memorial Hospital
- BHC – Huntington Beach Hospital
- BHC – St. Jude Medical Center
- BHC – Children's Hospital of Orange County

OCEMS STAFF PRESENT

- Carl Schultz, MD
- Gagandeep Grewal, MD
- Danielle Ogaz
- Laurent Repass, NRP
- Jason Azuma, EMT-P
- Philip Grieve, EMT
- Erica Moojen
- Eileen Endo
- Lisa Wilson
- Irma Chavando
- EMS Medical Director
- Associate EMS Medical Director
- EMS Systems & Standards Chief
- EMS Information Systems Chief
- OC-MEDS Coordinator
- EMS ALS Coordinator
- EMS Office Supervisor
- Office Specialist
- Information Processing Technician
- EMS Staff Assistant

GUESTS PRESENT

NAME

Trenton Amaro
Shelley Brukman, RN
Lori Hrowal

REPRESENTING

- Lynch Ambulance Service
- Children's Hospital of Orange County
- Lynch Ambulance Service

MEMBERS

Patrick Powers, EMT-P
Robert Selway, RN
Jacob Wagoner

REPRESENTING

- City of Placentia
- St. Joseph Hospital
- Lynch Ambulance Service

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Iksoo Kang, MD, Chair.

II. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Philip Grieve is the new ALS Coordinator with an extensive background in EMS and will be invaluable member of this team. David Johnson is back on contract and working part-time.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the May 11, 2022 meeting was approved as submitted.

IV. OCEMS REPORT

• Medical Director's Report

Dr. Schultz we have been following a heatwave emergency and are supporting Public Health. Vicky Sweet, our former ALS Coordinator, monitored and tracked the resolved trends.

• Health Emergency Management (Disaster Report):

Dr. Grewal COVID-19 positivity case rates are coming down to less than 10 cases per 100k. Hospitalizations are less than half of our peak of 169 and 26 in the ICU. Many of the hospitalizations are incidentals, not due to COVID. The bivalent COVID booster that covers BA4 and BA5 variants and the original strains is

available as of last week. BA4.6 variant is starting to make inroads, which is a big concern that might be resistant to Evusheld treatment. We will keep an eye on these cases.

Monkeypox has 60k cases worldwide, 22k cases in the US, 4k in California, and 200 cases in Orange County. Public Health has been stepping up efforts to get vaccinations out to the high-risk population. By far, most cases are men who have sex with men; it is a contact disease, not an STD.

CDC warns about the recent uptake of rhinovirus and enterovirus infections in kids requiring admission. I reached Shelley/CHOC, and they see many cases due to the virus. They are trying to determine if the increase is seasonal.

Shelley – we are in the preload face of looking at the data.

We also have a higher risk of wildfires in the area. We have been getting notifications from Edison that they may initiate the Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS). We notified some healthcare facilities in the (PSPS) zones of a potential outage. Reminder to have a plan in place for fuel and a response plan.

The AOC is still helping with logistic support. Mobile POD vaccination and monkeypox vaccines. Public Health is dealing with most of that inhouse. We are accepting limited resource requests for a surplus of PPE, and we must reduce inventory in our warehouse. If you need gowns and face shields, reach out to us.

We do have BinaxNOW professional use test kits in significant supply. They are readily available for those with clia waivers. To test in your agency-associated facilities. We have plenty of over-the-counter test kits, but we are trying to reserve those for disadvantaged and high-risk populations.

We have newly hired staff trying to get up to speed. Internally we are planning drills and exercises and looking to update some of our plans. In addition, we are working on our grant cycle to fulfill some of the requirements for submitting our budgets and seeking approvals.

HCCOC EMS Advisory Committee has been rescheduled for Wednesday, 9/28/22, at 10:30 am hybrid option.

Kim/CHOC – we are in the process of distributing the flyer; disaster burn management discussion, but we want to get together to have the same robust participation. We were looking for ED staff members, Nurses, Techs, and members of the Fire agency to meet and go over drills and share best practices and tools; it's good networking. Teresa/UCI is chairing it, and Dr. Hecht is actively involved.

The Coalition is currently at California Hospital Association (CHA) Disaster Conference. We seek funding approval to send people to the National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference; some topics include EMS in disaster and healthcare Coalition.

Upcoming Conferences:

- EMSA Trauma Summit, October 6, 2022
- National Pediatric Disaster Conference, October 27-28, 2022, Arizona (Virtual)
<https://coyotecampaign.org/NPDconference-2022/>
- EMS for Children Virtual Education Forum, November 3, 2022
- National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference, November, 29 – December 1, 2022, Anaheim Marriott
<https://web.cvent.com/event/8b94d7c7-bef7-4f4c-bd0c-451940b01ab4/websitePage:0d83cf6-9693-456f-8682-1d0ef8eb3a72?locale=en-US&tm=AOGVCXnLtFtsb5YA33EfjTsujoH8bk6CO-SyNIMJeE>

The 2023 Ambulance permit inspection are under way. 22 permitting Ground Ambulance providers and 1 permitting Air provider. 401 permitting Ground Ambulances and 3 Air Ambulances.

- **Ambulance Patient Off-Load Time:**

Laurent Repass reported on the APOT reports for June and July. Today we sent out the August APOT report. July was our busiest transport month, with 12-15 hospitals, APOT is over 30 minutes, and a few are close to 60 minutes. 16,379 EMS transports. APOT of the 90th percentile countywide was 36 minutes from June through August. August 15,962 EMS transports for the month. We have a new dashboard on the website that shows daily APOT results. In addition, there is also a monthly diversion report that is on the website as well and a systemwide diversion dashboard.

- **The Bi-Directional Data Exchange Project**

Laurent Repass - The Bi-Directional Data project is funded by CDC intended to facilitate and enable data exchange between Electronic Health Records ERC used by all EMS providers, known as OCMEDS and connect that system to each electronic health record used by hospitals throughout the County. We received letters of support from 24 hospitals. We have signed agreements from 12 hospitals. We are actively working with three hospital groups UCI, CHOC, and Prime Healthcare hospitals. We are finalizing nondisclosure agreements and security IT reviews between software vendors, and once this is complete, we can begin the technical implementation and earnest. In the next 3 weeks, we will start technical work with UCI. The project is due to be complete by June 30, 2023.

V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- *None discussed.*

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

- **New Policies/Procedures Posted:**

Dr. Schultz – we posted 8 updated policies, procedures, and standing orders. The attached letters for each where the changes are what the difference were. We will be incorporating language from the IFT/ALS standing orders into existing policies and standing orders, with plans to sunset the IFT/ALS specific documents on April 1, 2023. We will keep the old IFT/ALS documents on the books for the usual 6-month period while everyone learns to use the updated information.

- **IFT/ALS Base Hospital Contact**

Dr. Schultz – Base Hospital contact is voluntary for IFT and 911 Paramedics when they engage in IFT transfers. Previously the IFT/ALS Paramedics were prohibited from making Base Hospital contact, and 911 was required to reach the base hospital.

Laura/Lynch EMS – IFT Medics and Base Hospital contact, are we doing those calls through radio or phone. Dr. Grewal explained the process.

- **Policy Updates with Letter #4427 – October 1, 2022**

Attached in packet.

- **Letter #4410 Hospital Bypass APOT**

Dr. Schultz – Ambulances may now bypass their nearest ERC regardless of diversion status if it has a 90% APOT of 60 minutes or more, and travel to the next closest most appropriate ERC with lower APOT numbers even if it is outside their normal 20-minute transport time.

Kim/Placentia Linda – we have noticed an increase in calls on our Paramedic line asking how many ambulances are waiting on our bay and asking for wait times.

Dr. Schultz – The memo assesses APOT, which is not the information I want being provided.

Patrick Powers – will OCEMS be augmented to include this reason as the destination decision reason of being APOT greater than 60 minutes standard?

Dr. Schultz – deferred to Laurent; we do not have anything like that yet, but we are meeting on Thursday.

VII. **Advisory Committee Reports**

- **Base Hospital Coordinators** - *Julia Afrasiabi reported:*

We are getting ready to ramp up another MICN class. Ruth Clark has a Blast Injury Lecture on September 15, 2022, at OC Global Bash Auditorium; good opportunity for information and education on not just mass casualty incidents but injuries related to those. Also, in November 2022, we will have our Next No Fear Conference at Mission Hospital, in person (Free).

- **Orange County Fire Chief EMS** – *Jeff Lopez reporting*

This committee met on September 1; we are working on skills and online updates due 10/1/22 mandatory implementation date of all the things that came out in April. In addition, we are finishing up training for the policies that came out. CQI Subcommittee has a new Chair, Captain Adam Novac, Newport Beach Fire.

- **Orange County Nursing Leadership** – *Kim Nichols reporting:*

Unfortunately, our last meeting on July 8, 2022, was canceled. I do not have anything new to report. Our next meeting is on October 14, 2022.

- **Facilities Advisory Subcommittee**

This Committee met on September 13, 2022, and besides the items discussed here at CPAC, we also discussed the policies, procedures, and APOT.

IX. **NEXT MEETING** – Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

X. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.