



EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE



REGULAR MEETING

Friday, July 8, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: Via Zoom

MINUTES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Health Care Agency Staff</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael S. Ritter, MD	– Orange County Medical Assn. (SOCEP)	Gagandeep Grewal, MD	– Associate EMS Medical Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arturo Pedroza	– Board of Supervisors, First District	Adrian Rodriguez	– EMS Performance Chief
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Grihalva, MICP	– Board of Supervisors, Second District	Danielle Ogaz	– EMS Systems & Standards Chief
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Timothy Munzing, MD	– Board of Supervisors, Third District	Jason Azuma, NRP	– OC-MEDS Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luis Estevez	– Board of Supervisors, Fourth District	Rommel Navarro	– Chief Pharmacist
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ted Heyming, MD	– Board of Supervisors, Fifth District	James Gee	– Pharmacist
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert M. Viera	– Ambulance Association of Orange County	Justin Newton	– HEM Program Supervisor II
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Firey	– American Red Cross	Kirstin Wong	– EMS Specialist
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Kuo	– City Selection Committee	Irma Chavando	– Staff Assistant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Killebrew	– Orange County City Managers Association	Eileen Endo	– Office Specialist
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Adam Loeser (ex)	– Orange County Fire Chief Association	Lisa Wilson	– Information Processing Technician
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Gibbs, MD	– Orange County Medical Association		
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Stu Greenberg	– Orange County Police Chiefs' & Sheriffs Assn.		
GUESTS PRESENT			
Julia Afrasiabi, RN	– UCI Medical Center	Daniel Graham	– Liberty Ambulance Service
Whitney Ayers	– Hospital Association of S. California	Kimberly Nichols, RN	– Placentia-Linda Hospital
Nicholas Berkuta	– One Heart	Soraya Peters	– Hospital Association of S. Calif.
Drew Bernard	– Emergency Ambulance Service	Vishal Raj	– Falck Mobile Health Corp.
Randy Black	– Orange County Fire Authority	Sharon Richards	– Hospital Association of S. Calif.
Ruth Clark, RN	– Orange County Global Medical Center	Robert Selway, RN	– St. Joseph Hospital
Laura Cross, RN	– Mission Hospital	Bill Sullivan	– Orange County Fire Authority
Chief Sean deMetropolis	– City of Orange Fire Department	Kristin Thompson, RN	– Newport Beach Fire Department
Laura Derr	– St. Joseph Hospital	Christine Waddell, RN	– Huntington Beach Hospital
Beckie Gomez	– City of Tustin	Heidi Yttri, RN	– St. Jude Medical Center

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dr. Michael Ritter, MD.

2. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Mayor from the City of Irvine, Anthony Kuo, is the new City Selection Committee representative. Mr. Kuo provided Committee members with a brief background.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the April 8, 2022, meeting were approved.

4. OCEMS REPORT

• **Medical Director's Report**

Dr. Grewal provided the Medical Director's report in Dr. Schultz's absence. Currently, Orange County EMS has six vacancies and are in the process of hiring new staff. The 9-1-1 dispatch protocols have been approved with minimal comments. The State has added medications to the scope of practice and extended the scope of practice to allow EMS personnel to conduct COVID and Influenza testing and give vaccines.

- **Health Emergency Management Report**

Dr. Grewal reported that the COVID 19 case rates are increasing: 30 cases per 100,000 of population. Hospitalization increased to 277. The newer variant BA-5 subvariant of Omicron is the most prominent variant. Therapeutics are considered effective. Influeza slow uptrend decreasing. The monkey pox epidemic continues to grow – 100 cases in California. Vaccines are very limited and are not for general health care providers. The AOC remains activated but planning to deactivate soon. Resource Requests for test kits are available (professional and over the counter); reach out to us if you want us to send them to you. Three new employees started in HEM. Training/Exercises schedule through September; reach out to us if you are interested in attending (i.e., communication, hazard vulnerability assessment, leadership, ICS, situation awareness and preparedness.

- **Hospital Diversion Report (January 1 to May 2022)**

Danielle Ogaz advised of changes to the report's total diversion hours associated with the APOT.

- **Ambulance Patient Off-Load Time (APOT) Report: January 1 to May 2022**

APOT & Diversion times are higher than normal. We are monitoring closely.

- **Bi-Directional Exchange Project**

Dr. Grewal this project to establish bi-directional communication between EPCR of the EMS system & HER of the hospital system to help get PCRs into the electronic health record into the hospital outcome results OCMEDS system. 24 of 25 ERC letters of interest. The project will be presented to the BOS this month for approval.

V. **EMCC ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS**

- **Facilities Advisory Committee (May 10, 2022 meeting)**

Danielle Ogaz reported the last meeting was in May, and we discussed the protracted diversion & APOT times. The next Facilities meeting is on July 12, 2022, and it will be on the agenda.

Dr. Grewal reported that Dr. Anderson inquired about radiation preparedness, and we check our equipment to ensure it was functional. UCI had its trauma site survey in April, and the ACS committee was very impressed and recertified in adult/peds trauma.

- **County Prehospital Advisory Committee (July 13, 2022 meeting was cancelled)**

Dr. Grewal reported the this Committee discussed policy #300.30 which is currently on hold. The next CPAC meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2022.

- **Transportation Advisory Committee (July 6, 2022 meeting was cancelled)**

The next TAC meeting is October 5, 2022.

VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- **Ground Ambulance Emergency Rates FY 2022-2023**

Dr. Grewal reported that we wanted to keep this on the agenda; we are looking for a conclusion. 2022 is the last year the rates get adjusted on July 1 as part of the 2017 BOS agreement. There is an incremental increase based on salary changes and other costs. County will bring an EMCC presentation about ambulance costs and new rates working within the HCA to recommend and endorse the requested rate to this committee for a vote in October, and then we will take it to the BOS.

- **OCEMS Policy/Procedure #310.96: Guidelines for Diversion Status and APOT Standards**

Dr. Grewal asked if the group had the chance to read the policy, and if there are questions or concerns, we will be happy to address them. Dr. Ritter reviewed them and there was no further comments.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- **OCEMS Policy/Procedure #100.30: Emergency Medical Care Committee Bylaws**

Dr. Grewal reported that the EMCC bylaws have been reformatted without any change to its substance. The Board of Supervisors require that all Boards, Commissions, and Committees (whose members are appointed by the Board) use a standardized and uniform format consistent with a template that they have developed. Bylaws were last revised in 2001. Dr. Ritter suggested that Orange County EMS amend the bylaws to include representatives from lifeguards and air transport agencies.

The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended that Orange County EMS include representatives from lifeguard and air transport agencies.

VIII. MEMBER COMMENTS

- *None made.*

IX. PUBLIC FORUM

- *None made.*

X. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 14, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. (location to be determined)

XI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.