



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 4, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

Held via Zoom Videoconferencing

MINUTES

MEMBERS			
NAME	CATEGORY REPRESENTED	ORANGE COUNTY EMS STAFF	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Karras, Chair	– Ambulance Association of Orange County	Carl H. Schultz, MD	– EMS Medical Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jill Patt, RN	– Base Hospital Coordinators	Mike Noone, NRP	– Assistant EMS Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jacob Wagoner	– Ambulance Service Provider non-9-1-1	Laurent Repass, NREMT-P	– EMS Information Systems Chief
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Maas, RN	– Orange County ED Nursing Leadership	Philip Grieve, EMT-P	– ALS/CQI Coordinator
<input type="checkbox"/> Chad Druten	– Ambulance Service Provider 9-1-1	Meng Chung, EMT-P	– BLS Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Creager	– Air Transport Provider	Genise Silva, RN	– Facilities Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Barry, PM	– Fire Service Provider (with transport)	Jason Azuma, NRP	– OC-MEDS Coordinator
<input type="checkbox"/> Rhonda Rosati, RN	– Fire Service Provider (non- transport)	Juan Alvarez, EMT	– EMS Specialist
		Drew Bernard, EMT	– EMS Specialist
		Maria Nava, EMT	– EMS Specialist
		Kirstin Wong, EMT	– EMS Specialist
		Eileen Endo	– EMS Staff Support
		Erica Moojen	– EMS Office Supervisor
GUESTS PRESENT			
NAME	REPRESENTING	NAME	REPRESENTING
Josh Dean	– Premier Ambulance Service	Patrick Powers	– City of Placentia
Lance Lawson	– APA	Heidi Yttri, RN	– St. Jude Medical Center
Walt Lynch	– Lynch Ambulance Service	Stefano Gaitan	– Los Alamitos Medical Center
Julia Afrasiabi	– UCI Medical Center	Lance Lawson	– APA
Armen Akopyan	– Horizon OC	Jacob Maier	– Huntington Beach Hospital
Nicholas Berkuta	– City of San Clemente	Alejandro Martinez	– Horizon OC
Shelley Brukman, RN	– CHOC	Meghann Ord, RN	– Hoag Memorial Hospital
Ruth Clark, RN	– Orange County Global	Teressa Polinski, RN	– UCI Medical Center
Kim Zaky, RN	– CHOC	Jacob Wagoner	– Lynch Ambulance Service
		Dennis	

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:02am by the new Chair, Jim Karras.

II. **INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- New EMS Facilities Coordinator, Genise Silva, RN, was introduced by Dr. Carl Schultz.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from January 4, 2023, were approved. 1st by Jacob Wagoner from Lynch; 2nd by Ryan Creager from Mercy Air

IV. **OCEMS REPORT**

- **OCEMS Report:** by Dr. Carl Schultz
 Need pharmaceutical distribution related to COVID. Paxlovid is still being done through the County. Number of kids transported is less for COVID. Influenza is going up and down in small increments. 200 diversion hours per month might be the new normal for our system but we can probably live with it.
- **Bi-Directional Data Exchange:** by Laurent Repass.
 UCI is the most advanced secured connection testing data exchange. CHOC, Providence and Prime are working on business agreements. Letter went out yesterday regarding NEMIS. Federal government

requires all vendors to update system to version 3.5. Request changes to run forms and other things. We have 12 months to do it. State deadline for final transition is 1/1/2024. Must be off current NEMSIS that we are using.

Patrick Powers: Will a new template will be provided regarding the NEMSIS update?

Laurent Repass: Elite Software will need to be reconfigured. Run Forms will be developed based on new standard. NEMSIS 3.5 is different enough to require new run forms. If there are system demands, then we will address that.

Patrick Powers: Will there be any small workgroup regarding dialogue?

Laurent Repass: We will create a county form and work individually with agencies to tailor to what is required to meet their own needs. Several agencies use the county form. Seems to be an easier way to go. Several providers use a third party system. Agencies need to work with their vendors to comply well before 3rd quarter.

Jim Karras suggested to send memo from EMS to third party vendor.

- **OCEMS Reports and Dashboard Access:** by Laurent Repass

Jim Karras asked for the OCEMS Reports and Dashboard Access to be on the agenda.

Meng Chung – Update on ambulance inspections for the group. Between August and December, 418 annual inspections were completed. There are 390 permitted ambulances in Orange County. Frontline EMS is a new provider. County approved 21 vehicles per extension program. Medline does radio checks quarterly. Completion was 93% for last year.

V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Informational Item Only: by Meng Chung
Orange County EMS Policy/Procedure #714:00: Maximum Emergency Ground Ambulance Rates.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

- #4477 Refresher Memo EMS Interventions by Carl Schultz
If your nearest emergency receiving center is hospital X and their APOT time is 92 minutes, then you can bypass hospital X for hospital Y if it has a lower APOT.

Jim Karras: It's hard to go to a facility that you just cleared from knowing the local hospital wait time is long.

Dave Barry: Sixty minutes wait time; can we shorten this to 20 minutes? Facility says it has no beds, but no ambulances on the wall and 90% APOT is low (no wait time). Can we bypass waiting that hour?

Carl Schultz: Short answer is no. The idea is that we do not want to disadvantage one member of system over another member. It would be helpful to have data on how many times this has happened. Facilities are stressed and we are seeing increasing bad behavior. One facility slashed a cot and this is not good practice. Vandalized, they had to pay for cot. Substantial consequences jeopardized. We understand that multiple people have short fuses. To make it more onerous at this point will create more difficulty for the system. EMS is trying to meet all needs. Hoping with more data can give an idea to make a better decision.

Dave Barry will collect data points for Carl Schultz. He will work with Laurent to see what data we know.

Carl Schultz: Not data driven, but certainly data driven policy standard for APOT is 30 minutes. We are concerned where the State might be doing, suggesting the standard 90% APOT should be 20 minutes and doubling State 20 minute recommendation to 40 minutes would be the limit. Fines are the consequences that would occur at 40 minutes. When patient can be put in a chair, waiting makes no sense. This may be

a local problem. Using 911 system to transport patients not based on medical situation. Most hospitals are playing by rules. Helps to know if this is system wide or only one or two hospitals.

VII. NEXT MEETING

The meeting scheduled for April 5, 2023, at 9:00am was cancelled on March 22, 2023.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at 9:00 am.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:41am.