



COUNTY PREHOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 12, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.
Location: The Marine Way Campus – AOC-103B

MINUTES

MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS

- ☐ Theodore Heyming, MD
- ☒ Jon Cline, MD
- ☐ Robert Granata, MD
- ☐ Joshua Bobko, MD
- ☒ Kelly Dodge, MD
- ☐ Iksoo Kang, MD
- ☐ Eric McCoy, MD
- ☐ David Ngo, MD
- ☐ Kelly Unger, MD
- ☐ Robert Katzer, MD
- ☒ Shira Schlesinger, MD
- ☐ Julia Afrasiabi, RN
- ☒ Laura Cross, RN
- ☒ Whitney Patnode, RN
- ☐ Jill Patt, RN
- ☐ Heidi Ragas, RN
- ☒ Jenael Rosenberg, RN
- ☐ Abigail Baur, RN

REPRESENTING

- BHPD – Rady Children's Hospital Orange County
- BHPD – Mission Hospital
- BHPD – Orange County Global Med. Ctr.
- Medical Director – OC Fire Authority
- BHPD – Hoag Memorial Hospital
- BHPD – St. Jude Medical Center
- BHPD – UCI Medical Center
- BHPD – Huntington Beach Hospital
- BHPD – Huntington Beach Hospital
- Medical Director - Anaheim Fire & Rescue
- Medical Director - Newport Beach Fire Dept
- BHC – UCI Medical Center
- BHC – Mission Hospital
- BHC – Rady Children's Hospital Orange County
- BHC – Huntington Beach Hospital
- BHC – St. Jude Medical Center
- BHC – Hoag Memorial Hospital
- BHC – OC Global Medical Center

MEMBERS

- ☐ Patrick Dibb
- ☐ Patty Glead, RN
- ☒ Justin Horner, EMT-P
- ☐ Colin Wood
- ☒ Bryan Johnson, RN
- ☒ Cyndie Strader

REPRESENTING

- EMT Training Programs
- Paramedic Training
- Fire Chiefs EMS Committee
- Anaheim Fire & Rescue
- Orange City Fire Dept.
- OC ED Nursing Leadership

HCA/OCEMS STAFF PRESENT

- ☐ Mindy Winterswyk
- ☒ Almaas Shaikh, MD
- ☒ Carl Schultz, MD
- ☒ Gagandeep Grewal, MD
- ☒ Mike Noone, NRP
- ☒ Sarkis Sarkisian
- ☒ Genise Silva, RN
- ☒ Ruth Clark, RN
- ☐ Jason Azuma, NRP
- ☐ Stephanie King, RN
- ☒ Fran Cohen, RN
- ☒ Drew Bernard
- ☒ Chad Cossey
- ☐ Justin Newton
- ☒ Erica Moojen
- ☒ Kelly Asch
- HCA Assistant Agency Director
- HCA Deputy Health Officer
- EMS Medical Director
- Associate EMS Medical Director
- Assistant EMS Administrator
- EMS Coordinator
- EMS Facilities Coordinator
- EMS Trauma Coordinator
- OC MEDS Coordinator
- EMS Prehospital/CQI Coordinator
- EMS Liaison
- EMS Specialist
- EMS Program Supervisor II
- Sr. Emergency Management Coordinator
- Office Supervisor B
- HDP Staff Assistant

GUESTS PRESENT

NAME

Danielle Ogaz
Lauren Lee
Matt Armstrong
Puneet Gupta, MD
Andy Janis
Mildred Cureton
Karissa James
Brandon Grinstead
Elizabeth Hartson

REPRESENTING

- LA County Fire Department
- Fountain Valley Fire Department
- Premiere Ambulance
- LA County Fire Department
- Newport Beach Fire Department
- Foothill Medical Center
- OC Global Medical Center
- Paramedtrix
- South County Global Medical Center

NAME

Steve Hurdle
Amanda Collins
Danielle Boal
Stephanie Scott
Rom Rahimian, MD
Andrew Tran
Vishal Raj
Anthony Espique
Emi Hovenden

REPRESENTING

- Lifeline Ambulance
- Rady Children's Hospital Orange County
- Brea Fire Department
- St. Joseph Hospital
- Huntington Beach Fire Department
- Orange County Fire Authority
- FALCK Ambulance
- Mercy Air
- West Anaheim ER

I. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order by Bryan Johnson at 1:03pm.

II. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Everyone went around the room and introduced themselves.
- Welcomed Carissa Martinez (New Office Specialist, EMS) and Damien Ciphers (EMS Specialist).

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes from the September 10, 2025, meeting minutes were approved.

IV. OCEMS REPORT

- Medical Director's Report – *Dr. Carl Shultz*

- Triage to Destination: The project is moving forward. Potential county funding has been identified, and efforts are underway to secure approval and begin coordination with Anaheim Fire before the end of the year.
- Protocol Updates: The latest updates are out and are optional for all agencies (except two minor items) until April 1st, when they become required.
- AMA Policy: The documentation for the AMA policy has been revised to list all criteria instead of simply referring to the policy; have been signed and will be posted soon.
- Pediatric Stroke Standing Order: A new standing order is in development. It is currently awaiting input from the EMS Advisory Group and is planned to be finalized and implemented by April.
- Health Disaster Preparedness Report – *Dr. Gagandeep Grewal*
 - (Adding to the EMS Report) SB 43 Trainings: The Behavioral Health Division is conducting three virtual trainings for first responders regarding SB 43 (Behavioral Health). Information and links were distributed via email and are available on the website.
 - Disaster Preparedness: OCEMS is planning with SSA and long-term care organizations to develop a SNF Long-Term Care Mutual Aid System for in-place or evacuation needs, drawing lessons from LA County's efforts.
 - TEEK Courses (Texas A&M): Falck is hosting for free, state-approved TEEK courses:
 - Personal Protective Management for Bioagents: January 28th & 29th (2 1-day courses).
 - Medical Management of CBRNE Incidents (2-day): April 27th & 28th.
 - Pod Planning Course: September.
 - Pediatric Disaster Course: October.
 - *Mike Noone*: MHCC Activation: The MedHealth Coordination Center (MHCC) is activated for the Infant Formula Botulism Outbreak. Hospitals were urged to report suspected cases to their local health department.
- Ambulance Patient Off-Load Time – *Jason Azuma*
 - October Volume/APOT: Call volume for October was approximately 16,700. The 90th percentile APOT was 22 minutes and 5 seconds, continuing a trend of keeping APOT below 25 minutes.
 - Diversion: Diversion hours are rising over 1,000 hours in September and over 1,100 hours in October.
 - *Genise Silva*: AB 40 APOT Audit Process:
 - The audit tool is now available for facilities to check and verify APOT.
 - Any disagreement triggers a mandatory meeting between the facility and the transporting agency.
 - If a party fails to attend the meeting, the other party's documented time will automatically stand.
 - Transporting agencies should ensure accurate dating, timing, and facility designation to avoid unnecessary meeting prompts.

V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- *Dr. Carl Schultz*: OC Global Stroke Center Status: OC Global is no longer a designated stroke center. Their six-month revocation is in effect until January 18th. They will need to reapply for designation; it is not automatically reinstated. Questions from audience included: 1. Will the policies be updated to reflect this? 2. Will other facilities be able to apply to be a SNRC? 3. Will a system-wide memo go out?; answered yes to all.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Chapter 2. Boxing, Wrestling, and Martial Arts [18600 – 18888.12]**, Ring side physician – *Dr. Carl Schultz*
 - Problem: State law requires on-site physicians to direct transport to a trauma center "without delay," potentially conflicting with a paramedic's need to stabilize life-threatening conditions before transport.
 - Proposed Solution: Policy 310.15 (Physician on Scene) will be revised to include a carve-out for these events.

- Concept: Time spent implementing emergent life-saving interventions (as determined by paramedic judgment) will not be considered a delay or a violation of the law. This aims to protect paramedics who prioritize patient care (e.g., establishing an airway, managing shock) before rapid transport.

VII. ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Base Hospital Coordinators (*Whitney Patnode*): Next No Fear Conference is Friday 11/14/2025; at UCI; disaster-related theme; registration info is available on the BHC website; parking validation is not included, please allow enough time to park across the street, instructions to be sent out to registrants.
- Orange County ED Nursing Leadership (*Cyndie Strader*): At the 10/31/25 meeting we reviewed AB 40/APOT, flu/RSV/COVID waiver status, and the prehospital exposure policy.
- Orange County Fire Chiefs EMS Committee (*Justin Horner*): Working on revised standing orders for cardiac arrest. Discussing pediatric CPAP equipment. Working on adding new medications/procedures to Standing Orders I-15 & I-20. Next meetings are dark on December 4th and January 1st (resume in February).
- Facilities Advisory Subcommittee (*Genise Silva*): UCI Health is opening a new Emergency Room in Irvine with a tentative date of December 10th. A system memo will announce when ambulance traffic is permitted following designation approval.
- Pediatric Collaborative (*Ruth Clark*): Next meeting is scheduled for December 1st.
- Prehospital agencies proposed the following topics for the January Meeting:
 1. *Dr. Shira Schlesinger*: Discussion on implementing Magnesium for prehospital hypertension presentations, consistent with NAEMSP and ACOG recommendations.
 2. *Andrew Tran*: Discussion on a timeline for the joint submission regarding alternate sites for IO access (Intraosseous) for drug/CS infusions (e.g., femoral or humeral head).
 3. *Jenael Rosenberg*: Ketamine dose range.
 4. *Dr. Rom Rahimian*: Push-dose Epinephrine change to a standing order and not a base hospital order only.
 5. *Dr. Shira Schlesinger*: ALS no contact phone update.
 6. *Dr. Kelly Dodge*: Isolated head trauma to a SNRC.

VIII. ROUND TABLE

- *Dr. Shira Schlesinger*: LA County EMS is hosting a virtual lecture on December 2nd titled "You Did What?: Legal Pitfalls in Responding to Behavioral Crises; one hour CE/CME opportunity.
- *Mike Noone*: Please continue to send us comments/suggestions for updates.
- *Jason Azuma*: Please continue to notify of us of changes that need made within the PCRs.
- *Dr. Puneet Gupta*: Had questions on the concentration of Ketamine and dosing; Ketamine was not manufactured to be used in the pre-hospital setting; please send any suggestions of a better concentration to use; discussion ensued.

IX. NEXT MEETING

- The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 1:00pm at Marine Way.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:57pm.