



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE



## REGULAR MEETING

Friday, October 10, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: County Administration North (CAN) Multipurpose Room  
400 West Civic Center Drive, First Floor, Room 101, Santa Ana, CA 92701

## MINUTES

Name	Representing	Health Care Agency Staff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael S. Ritter, MD	– Orange County Medical Assn. (SOCEP)	Mindy Winterswyk
<input type="checkbox"/> Van Vu, MD	– Board of Supervisors, First District	Carl Schultz, MD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Grihalva, MICP	– Board of Supervisors, Second District	Gagandeep Grewal, MD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Timothy Munzing, MD	– Board of Supervisors, Third District	Mike Noone, NRP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adam Loeser, Fire Chief	– Board of Supervisors, Fourth District	Genise Silva, RN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theodore Heyming, MD	– Board of Supervisors, Fifth District	Kristen Karpow, RN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Armstrong	– Ambulance Association of Orange County	Ruth Clark, RN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Firey	– American Red Cross	Drew Bernard
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Albright, LMFT	– Orange County Behavioral Health Advisory Board	Erica Moojen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Killebrew	– Orange County City Managers Association	Carissa Martinez
<input type="checkbox"/> VACANT	– Orange County Fire Chief Association	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Gibbs, MD	– Orange County Medical Association	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Stu Greenberg	– Orange County Police Chiefs' & Sheriffs Assn.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Zaky, DNP	– Orange Coast Emergency Nurses Association	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luke Schademan, RN	– Hospital Association of Southern California	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	– Orange County Business Council	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blair Stewart, Mayor	– City Selection Committee	
Guests Present		
Stefano Gaitan	– UCI- Los Alamitos	Vicki Sweet, RN
Robert Ower	– Premier Ambulance	Joshua Bobko, MD
Julia Afrasiabi, RN	– UCI	Rhonda Rosati, RN
Laura Cross, RN	– Mission Hospital	Heidi Ragas, RN
Amanda Collins	– CHOC	Jenael Rosenberg, RN
Ryan Creager	– Mercy Air	Monica Layhee, RN
Steve Hurdle	– Lifeline EMS	Jill Patt, RN
Sonam Wangyul	– Lynch EMS	
Vishal Raj	– FALCK	
Erick Quintanilla	– FALCK	

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

- The meeting was called to order at 09:00am by Mike Ritter, MD.

### **2. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- John Black accepted position of Sr. Emergency Management Coordinator at EMS/Health Disaster Preparedness.
- Carissa Martinez accepted position of EMS Office Specialist.
- Damien Cyphers accepted position of EMS Specialist.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** *Recommended Action: Approval of Minutes*

**Motion to approve July 11th, 2025, EMCC Minutes by Mike Ritter, MD.**

*Approved: 1<sup>st</sup>; 2<sup>nd</sup> none opposed.*

### **4. OCEMS REPORT**

- **Medical Director's Report** by Carl Schultz, MD

Decision made to increase midazolam dose to 10 mg one time for IM injection to simplify administration in combative patients. Will publish a new standing order (SO-P-120) to assist in the management of pediatric patients intubated in the emergency department who are being transferred. It permits the administration of midazolam while in transport to the previously intubated pediatric patient who is now fighting the ventilator. We still need to finalize the document, including process improvements and documentation cleanup. We expect to roll out in the next 1-2 weeks.

- **Health Disaster Preparedness Report** by Gagandeep Grewal, MD

Healthcare coalition meeting scheduled for October 23rd at the Marine Way campus, starting at 9:00 AM. Recent hospital incident command system and health disaster management trainings were held both received positive feedback and are planned to continue quarterly if resources allow.

Collaboration with long-term care and skilled nursing facilities initiated, focusing on evacuation procedures in disasters, especially following the LA fires' concerns. Ongoing discussion about disaster funding grants, which are still unresolved after 10 years. Recent COVID surge appears to be declining, and flu vaccines remain required for healthcare workers, with COVID vaccines still recommended but not mandatory

- **Ambulance Patient Off-Load Time (APOT) Report and Hospital Diversion Report** by Gagandeep Grewal, MD

APOT and diversion numbers up to July show significant improvement; APOT now averaging 23-24 minutes countywide, down from post-COVID highs. Hospital and EMS collaboration noted as key to improvement despite higher emergency transport volumes. Diversion hours are slightly higher than usual but remain below set standards.

EMSA has introduced an APOT audit tool; hospitals can now contest reported times but are encouraged to do so only for substantial discrepancies, given the resource cost of disputes. Emphasis on accuracy and agreement in report sign-off between facilities and providers.

## **5. EMCC ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS**

- **Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC)** by Genise Silva, RN

Trauma care systems meeting set for December 2, 2025 from 9am-11am including multidisciplinary participation (fire, police, social work, etc.), to take place at CAS large conference room; location in Outlook invite to be updated.

- **County Prehospital Advisory Committee (CPAC)** by Genise Silva, RN

CHOC renamed to Rady Children's Hospital Orange County.

- **Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)** by Matt Armstrong, SCAA

Transportation Advisory Committee meeting was canceled due to lack of agenda items.

## **6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –**

- *Carl Schultz, MD*, Triage to Alternate Destination project: State did approve a five-year data handling waiver; CSUs must process electronic data, but there is time to implement.
- *Gagandeep Grewal, MD*, AB 40 (APOT Bill): Emergency regulations approved by the state; audit tool and meeting processes in place for facilities exceeding 30-minute APOT, but no major changes for Orange County procedures.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS – Recommended Action: Approvals**

- **OC Global's SNRC** *Carl Schultz, MD*, OC Global Stroke Neuro Receiving Center designation remains under review; decision pending following hearing panel report.
- **Brea Fire Department Request for Permanent Activation**, *Kristen Karpow, RN*, Brea Fire Department's request to upgrade a unit to paramedic status approved, formalizing a conditional upgrade already in place.
- **Kaiser Irvine Emergency Receiving Center Designation**, *Genise Silva, RN*. Kaiser Irvine granted three-year conditional Emergency Receiving Center designation pending corrective action for three identified deficiencies (APOT times, compliance, trauma evaluation policy).

**Motion to approve all endorsement considerations above by Mike Ritter, MD**

*Approved: 1<sup>st</sup>; 2<sup>nd</sup> none opposed*

8. **MEMBER COMMENTS** – No member comments.
9. **PUBLIC FORUM** – No public comments.
10. **NEXT MEETING** – The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 9, 2026, 09:00 at the CAN MPR.
11. **ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting was adjourned at 09:23.