



County of San Diego

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MISSION STATEMENT

“As advisors to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, the Mission of the Emergency Medical Care Committee is to be an advocate for the community through the development of strategies for continuous improvement of the emergency medical services system.”

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC) Education/Research Subcommittee Meeting (Zoom)

Cheryl Graydon, R.N., Chair/ Vacant, Vice-Chair
Thursday, March 17, 2022

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Graydon, RN, Cheryl – Emergency Nurses’ Association
Kahn, MD, Christopher – District 4
Ma, MD, Gene – District 3
McJannet, RN, Catherine – District 1
Rosenberg, Linda – Emergency Nurses’ Association (Alt)

County Staff

Christison, Brian
Del Toro, Nicole (recorder)

Agency Representatives

Donofrio-Odmann, Joelle – RCHSD/SDFA
Jensen, Anne – San Diego Fire Rescue
Smith, Ray – CVFD

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cheryl Graydon, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. There were no introductions or announcements.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Gene Ma, seconded by Cathy McJannet to approve the January 20, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITION

There were no public comments or petitions.

4. PROJECT UPDATES – (Anne Jensen)

- **City of San Diego Pilot**
Have scaled back on the enrollment and pilot due to the city’s ambulance provider transition from Falck; however, one new person was enrolled today. Now up to 26 enrollments. Determined that we would continue to enroll and work on the pilot as we can. Going well so far.

Patient update: One of the participants passed away recently, but not during the time period of our interventions. He was unable to be located a lot of the times. He was referred to services and was in the waiting period.

5. CYBER INCIDENT SYSTEM RESEARCH PROJECT (Josh Smith, PhD and Chris Scott, MD)

(Brian Christison) The project is well underway. The finished product is not yet ready to share. Hopefully will be ready for the next meeting.

6. AB-1544 DISCUSSION (Cheryl Graydon, RN/ Brian Christison)

The second public comment period ended on March 3, 2022. The public comments were significant enough to possibly trigger another round of public comments. We anticipate a publication date in July or October.

(Ann Jensen)

An update was provided on the pilot. The basis of the program is that it is a frequent utilizer program, using data analytics to rank the high utilizers from top to bottom, starting at the very top and work our way down. We were a program that was in existence prior to community paramedicine being a term or concept. Under the pilot, we gained additional tools in our toolbox, and were approved for alternate destinations, care for chronic conditions, treat and refer. With AB 1544 regulations, have not seen a lot of things specific to community paramedicine that prevents or comments on whether our existing protocols will be able to be grandfathered in. That is an area of concern.

(Dr. Chris Kahn)

As far as interventions, we work with the City Attorney's office, County Public Guardian and County Public Conservator offices. We also look at things that are a little less traditional but still helpful, if it is what the patient needs. Everything is run past medical direction in real time. We feel we have a good handle on ways to help folks. It takes a lot of work, but have made significant differences for a lot of folks and got them connected to the care that they need. In the end, these initiatives saved a lot of effort and investment on behalf of emergency responders, including police departments and hospitals who receive these patients. As we find additional information on what those regulations are, then we will ensure that we change anything as needed.

There was group discussion followed by Q and A.

ACTION: A suggestion was made to reach out to the ED Managers to distribute the program information, via a quarterly report, to the charge nurses. Dr. Joelle Donofrio and Dr. Chris Kahn agreed to share information to the appropriate forum.

(Brian Christison)

AB 1544 has two very different models: The first model looks similar to the City Pilot; a small group of highly trained folks that are tasked on a particular clientele or patient base. The second model (triaged alternate destination) allows for regular street transport medics to take a 9-1-1 caller to one of the two included alternate destination facilities - a sobering center or mental health facility. Part of that work for this group and for the working group to dial these in is to identify the capacity that would match potential 9-1-1 patients for a regular street medic to transport those callers to. We want to keep the expectation management very clear that there are two different models here.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

There were no future agenda items.

8. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

- Next meeting is May 19, 2022 at 9:30 am.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:33 pm.