



BASE STATION PHYSICIANS' COMMITTEE (BSPC) AND PREHOSPITAL AUDIT COMMITTEE (PAC) MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 | 11:00 am

Minutes/Notes

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Christian Sloane, MD)

Dr. Sloane called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

- BSPC/PAC meeting minutes from the November 21, 2023 meeting were approved.

2. OPENING REMARKS (Kristi Koenig, MD)

- Dr. Koenig provided information on the following topics:
- Our Healthcare System is very busy during this respiratory season.
- We are seeing increases in Emergency Department volume and longer TOC times.
- Hospitals are increasing masking requirements, please be mindful.
- COVID updates
 - Virus in wastewater is high, vaccination rates are low.
 - Long Covid concerns continue.
 - Keeping up to date with your vaccinations is encouraged.
- Agenda highlights
 - ECPR Pilot Program Data Presentation
 - Emergency Department Impact Score Pilot
 - Ketamine
 - LITES Pain Study
 - February's EBM Presentation will be on Prehospital Sepsis by Dr. Claire Gahm.

3. DATA PRESENTATION (Michael Assof)

Michael Assof provided a presentation of the ECPR Dashboard.

- Review of Preliminary Data.
 - July – November 2023
- ECPR Alerts by Receiving Center.
 - Scripps Memorial La Jolla
 - Sharp Grossmont
 - Sharp Memorial
- 35 ECPR Alerts in the field.
 - 8 were placed on ECMO.
- Review of Incidents by Zip Codes.
 - Time Intervals in Minutes.
 - Mileage and Transport Time Difference.
- Goals:
 - Goal #1: Scene Time < 15, 90% of the time.
 - Goal #2: Arrest to ECPR Receiving Center < 45 min, 90% of the time.
 - Goal #3: Arrest to ECMO, 60 min, 90% of the time.

4. COUNTY REPORT (Christi Robbins)

- **The Comprehensive Base Station Hospital and Trauma Catchment Area Consultant**

The County's consultant's work is ongoing. This work includes providing 6 different models for us to compare as models for the future of the EMS base hospital system in San Diego County. The Consultant will also be looking at the Trauma Center Catchment Area Map to assure that Trauma Centers receive an optimal balance of Trauma calls at each center and other demographic updates for the catchment map.

The consultant's initial findings and recommendations were presented at 5 in-person sessions November 7-9. The presentation is also available for viewing on the County Engagement page.

Additional information and timelines are posted on the County EMS webpage.

- **Alvarado Hospital Transition to UCSD East**

Alvarado Hospital is transitioning to UCSD Health system. This campus will be known as "UCSD East" and effective December 11, 2023. The current services, including ED, stroke, and STEMI, will continue. Additional updates will be forthcoming.

- **Protocols**

The 2024-2025 EMS Treatment Protocol Revision cycle concluded on October 1. A survey was posted online from September 1 – October 1 for the EMS community to provide feedback on treatment protocols. The survey received over 70 responses from various system participants ranging from EMTs to physicians.

County staff are diligently reviewing these public comments to incorporate into draft protocols. The draft protocols will be presented at the Base Station Physicians' Committee (or BSPC) in the coming months.

- **New Online Reporting Platform for APS Referrals**

Aging & Independence Services (AIS) has transitioned to a new online reporting platform for APS referrals. To report suspected elder or dependent adult abuse or self-neglect, use the new link below:

<https://sandiego.leapportal.net/LEAPSIntake/NewPublicIntakeReport.aspx>

You do not need a username and password to use the new online system. In addition, a SOC 341 form is no longer required if you use the online referral option above. Referrals can still be made by calling the AIS Call Center at 800-339-4661.

The [Mandatory Reporting](#) page has been updated and the San Diego County EMS Office is in the process of revising policy S-411 Reporting of Suspected Child, Dependent Adult, or Elder Abuse/Neglect to reflect these changes.

- **EMS Mobile App**

The EMS Mobile App was updated to include an option to comment on EMS treatment protocols, policies open for public comment, and submit feedback for the EMS Mobile App. Users can navigate to the References section, then click on "EMS App, Protocol, and Policy Suggestions and Comments" to see this new feature.

- **County EMS Fees and the next Fiscal Year**

The EMS Office is currently working closely with the County's Emergency Services Administration Unit to review LEMSA fees. The fees being reviewed are personnel fees, specialty care fees and EMS permit fees. More information will be forthcoming as the analysis and calculations take shape. If you have questions or comments, please reach out via email EMSNotifications@sdcounty.ca.gov.

- **Public Comment Process**[\[CB1\]](#)

The Draft Policy Public Comment page was recently updated to reflect multiple policies that are currently posted for public comment until February 4, 2024. Some of these policies impact the standards for transfer of care from EMS personnel to ED medical personnel as well as identify procedures for mitigating ambulance patient offload delays. As a reminder, you can subscribe to receive email notifications on when draft policies are posted for public comment at the top of the Draft Policy Public Comment page.

Public Comment Page: [Online Public and Stakeholder Comment Submission \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

- **Current Medication Shortages**

County EMS is aware of multiple medication shortages and has issued guidance on albuterol and ketamine. We recommend auditing your inventory levels and communicating with your medication vendors on how they may be impacted.

Additional information on these medication shortages, as well as mitigation strategies, can be found on our new Medication Shortages page.

Medication Shortages Page: [Medication Shortages \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/medication-shortages)

- **Agency LEMSIS rosters need updating:**

All EMS agencies have the ability to electronically update their employee lists in LEMSIS. County staff have noticed that some agencies have done a better job *adding* new staff and have been less accurate with removing staff that have left the agency. Other agencies have not updated their roster in some time. County staffers rely on these LEMSIS rosters for finding the correct agency point of contact, QA reviews, arrest notifications, and a number of other responsibilities. ALS agencies are required to update their rosters under their MOAs, and permitted ambulance providers are required to update their rosters under County code.

5. OPIOID EPIDEMIC MITIGATION (Tyler Meick)

- Suboxone Pilot Program updates.
- Leave Behind Naloxone Program
 - Please email your quarterly reports to Nate Burger.
- Prehospital Buprenorphine
 - S-145 Opioid Withdrawal and Use Disorder Protocol.
 - Covers the San Diego County LOSOP to administer Buprenorphine/Naloxone to patients who are in withdrawal.
 - This Prehospital pilot program went live on October 2nd.
 - Beginning on October 2, units in Escondido and CSA-17 began screening opioid withdrawal patients using the COWS Score. Patients that meet criteria will be enrolled in the Prehospital Buprenorphine Program.
 - Agencies will utilize Highland Hospital as an alternate base during the pilot program but will additionally contact their assigned base to determine destination or receive further direction.
 - Patients will be encouraged to connect with a Substance Use Navigator, through the Emergency Department.
 - Patients will then be directed to Medication Assisted Treatment.
 - County of San Diego EMS is working with multiple stakeholders to bridge the gaps in the EMS Opioid response.
 - One solution in bridging those service gaps is holding monthly meetings with Regional Substance Use Navigators.
 - We are hoping to expand those meetings to include representatives of Fire and EMS personnel, as well as Emergency Department Medical Doctors who can act as Champions for EMS BUPE Program.
 - Also looking for MAT Representatives to join the meetings.
 - We are reviewing data and working to expand the program.
 - Currently in discussions with San Diego County Fire to offer Buprenorphine in the Pine Valley area.
 - To date there has not been Buprenorphine administration in the field.
 - We are looking at data for missed opportunities.
 - Please contact Tyler Meick for additional information, Tyler.Meick@sdcounty.ca.gov.

6. COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE (Tyler Meick)

- Tyler Meick provided an update on Community Paramedicine.
- Last November AB 1544 became active, which meant that November of this year the authorized pilot programs would no longer have authorization, all programs have to transition and work within the regulations of AB 1544.

- AB 1544 outlined a very specific way to do Community Paramedicine.
- The County of San Diego EMS Office has submitted our State application to allow approved San Diego County EMS agencies to participate in Community Paramedicine.
 - We were notified of new requirements needed, new requests from State. This request was fulfilled and resubmitted on October 20, 2023.
 - On November 6th, the State responded that some new requirements were added.
 - One new requirement was for Paramedic Service Providers submission of CEMIS Data to EMS within 72 hours.
 - Will resubmit the application and are hoping to get it worked out soon.
 - Continuing to develop Community Paramedicine initiative.
 - Restructuring our Community Paramedicine website in order to provide information to individuals and agencies seeking accreditation.
 - Also working with TAD patients to meet requirements on AB 1544.
 - Working to make other programs stronger.
- AB 767 update – extends AB 1544 until 2028.
- Includes authorization for Paramedics to preform Short Term Post Discharge Follow up.
- CA State EMSA will create new regulations.
- For additional information, please visit our Community Paramedicine webpage.

7. EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT IMPACT SCORE PILOT (Brian Christison)

- Brian Christison provided a review of the Emergency Department Impact Score Pilot Program.
- We have been working over the past year to identify a matrix that can identify system and hospital stress using metrics within the emergency department.
- In collaboration with hospital administrators, the San Diego County EMS Office deployed an ED Impact Status Scorecard. The ED Impact Status Scorecard is a novel system stress indicator allowing hospitals to communicate real-time facility capacity.
- The successful pilot program, initiated in May 2023, is now available for all San Diego County Diego hospitals to use.
- Timeliness is very important.
- Goal is to have real-time data integrated to dashboard.
- Ideally updated no less than every four hours
- Currently investigating the usefulness of this pilot.
- Intended Purpose of Score:
 - Inform Duty Office of Ambulance Diversion.
 - Current state of system.
 - Look across the system with a standardized metric.
- Information about this pilot program expansion is posted on the County Website.

8. KETAMINE (Carl Schultz, MD)

- Dr. Schultz provided a review of Ketamine for Prehospital Sedation.
- Ketamine is currently used for moderate pain management.
- Interest in using Ketamine for sedation of agitated patients in the field.
 - More study is needed to show dosing is safe and effective.
 - Not enough data is currently available.
- More accurate information is needed before we can move forward.

9. LITES PAIN STUDY (Christopher Kahn, MD)

- Prehospital Analgesic Interventional (PAIN) Trial is coming to San Diego County.
- Sponsored by the Department of Defense.
 - Military setting
- PAIN Study Design

- Clinical trial that compares fentanyl vs. sub-dissociative ketamine for the treatment of pain in the prehospital (EMS) setting.
- Multicenter – participating sites across the US.
- Randomized – equal chances of patients receiving fentanyl vs. ketamine.
- Double-blinded – neither patients nor the study team will know which pain medicine was given.
- Estimated 3 years of enrollment.
- Pain Study Outcomes
 - Big picture: Effectiveness of analgesia, patient safety and patient mortality.
- Three EMS agencies are provisionally participating in the study:
 - Chula Vista fire
 - Coronado Fire
 - San Diego Fire Rescue
- Study Drug Package may be left with patient.
- Exception from Informed Consent.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to painstudy@edc.pitt.edu or ckahn@health.ucsd.edu

10. CARDIAC UPDATES

- CARES (Brad Schwartz, MD)
 - No update
- Bystander CPR Workgroup (Brad Schwartz, MD)
 - Workgroup and Executive Committee continues to meet.
 - Meeting with different municipalities to discuss similar programs.
 - Preparing for kick-off press conference at the end of February.
 - Will be including AED in education for Bystander CPR.
 - Working with UCSD Public Relations on a branding campaign and promotional ideas.
 - Still looking for a celebrity spokesperson.
 - Please contact Dr. Schwartz for more information @ bradschwartz66@gmail.com.

11. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS/BSPC ADJOURNMENT (Christian Sloane, MD)

- The BSPC meeting was adjourned at 11:53 am.

EVIDENCE BASED MEDICINE PRESENTATION

Controversies in Prehospital Treatment:
 What is the Evidence?
 Presented by EMS Physicians

PAC MEETING

CHAired BY (Andy Fischer, MD)

1. CONFIRMATION OF CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS (Christi Robbins)
2. CALL TO ORDER (Andy Fischer, MD)
 - Dr. Fischer called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.
3. BASE HOSPITAL NURSE COORDINATORS (BHNC) REPORT (Brian Covell)
 - Friendly reminders and trends:

- With the increase in viral illness throughout the county, some health systems are reimplementing masking policies.
- Crews are asked to please follow institutions masking policy.
- BHNC has seen an increase in issues with the use of PCCM's.
 - PCCM does require authorization from the MICN and should be a collaborative discussion, to ensure that patients are getting the most appropriate care.
- Please be mindful of specialty resources.

4. MAC REPORT (Jennifer Farah, MD)

- No report

5. PAC REPORT (Andy Fischer, MD)

Two cases were discussed, as were PAC Pearls. A Q&A session followed.

- Please scan QR code on slides and submit survey form by midnight tomorrow with feedback, to help create PAC Pearls for the month.
- Dr Fischer suggested an OB talk for a future BSPC Lecture.

6. WRAP UP & NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next BSPC/PAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 20, 2024.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm.