



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

Tuesday, February 20, 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 January 16, 2024 meeting were approved.

2. OPENING REMARKS (Kristi Koenig, MD)

- Dr. Koenig provided information on the following topics:
- The Emergency Healthcare System remains busy.
- Triple threat virus surges (Covid, Flu and RSV) seem to have peaked and appear to be trending downward, metrics are improving.
- Today's Agenda highlights:
 - Data Presentation on the Rural Health Discharge Program.
 - Revive & Survive San Diego update.
 - Kick-off Press Conference will take place Monday morning, February 23rd from 10:00 – 10:30 AM. Followed by a live demonstration CPR Training Event.
 - Today's EBM Lecture will be on Prehospital Sepsis Treatment by Dr. Claire Gahm.
 - There will be a brief survey on EBM Lectures, please be sure to participate.
 - Protocol Reviews will be covered at the noon hour over the next couple of months and the EBM Lecture Series will resume after that.
 - Congratulations to Jason Hums for his February commentary in The San Diego Union-Tribune. Opinion: The Emergency Medical Industry Lacks Diversity.

3. DATA PRESENTATION (Sanaa Abedin)

Rural Health Discharge Program

Sanaa Abedin provided a presentation of the Rural Health Discharge Pilot Program.

- Background and overview of the program.
- Pilot Program began on June 26, 2023 and will run through June 30, 2024.
- The program currently serves the communities of Boulevard, Campo, Descanso, Guatay, Jacumba, Pine Valley, Potrero and Tecate.
- Qualified patients are enrolled from Sharp Grossmont Hospital and follow-up home visits occur weekly to provide care and services by County Fire/CAL FIRE Paramedic Captain and a Public Health Nurse.
- Clients are followed for up to 30 days post-discharge with the goal of reducing hospital readmission within that timeframe.
- Review of RHDP Data Dashboard weekly data.
 - Client Status and Information.
 - 30-day readmission rates were reduced.
- Q &A session followed.

4. COUNTY REPORT (Christi Robbins)

- Health Services Capacity Plan [Level](#): Plan Level 5 – Baseline Surveillance
- **The Comprehensive Base Station Hospital and Trauma Catchment Area Consultant**
The County’s consultant’s work is ongoing. The next steps of this process will include completing the consultant’s written report and delivering the report to the Board of Supervisors as recommendations. We are currently waiting for the final draft of this report. County EMS would like to emphasize that no one recommendation, model, or finding is predetermined or set in stone. These report findings represent recommendations to the County from an independent evaluator. The consultants’ findings and recommendations will inform the strategic direction for our county’s organized EMS delivery system.
- **Transfer of Care Dashboard Updated**
The annual EMS Treatment Protocol Revision cycle for 2024-2025 is well underway. County staff continue to review public comments. Draft protocols are being updated and will be presented to the BSPC or base station physicians' committee for comment in both March and April.
- **Protocols**
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- **New Online Reporting Platform for APS Referrals**
Aging & Independence Services (AIS) has transitioned to a new online reporting platform for APS referrals. Referrals can still be made by calling the AIS Call Center at 800-339-4661. The [Mandatory Reporting](#) page has been updated on the EMS website 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.
- **EMS for Children (EMS-C)**
If you are not familiar, EMSC is a specialty care program within EMSA that has associated statutes within the Health and Safety code and Title 22. Locally, out of the 34 LEMSAs within California, there are currently 4 with approved EMSC plans by EMSA.
To elevate, strengthen and support our pediatric care in the County, we are looking to reinvigorate our EMS for Children's Advisory Committee.
We want to thank Dr. Donofrio for being Chair for championing this population and this important committee. The committee while in its infancy stage will meet quarterly, the first was last November. The second (virtual teams) meeting is today from 3-4pm and membership is encouraged. The Goals for the meetings are to not only get the advisory committee reestablished, but to create a roadmap for the implementation of EMS-c.
Those who are interested in membership, please contact Adelder Martin at adelver.martin1@sdcounty.ca.gov
You can learn more about this Advisory Committee in the EMS for Children (EMSC) Advisory Committee policy ([S-018](#)) on our EMS website.
We wanted to let our Prehospital/hospital partners know EICC is the EMSC innovation and improvement Center. EICC aims to accelerate the work of the EMSC program, and the website serves as a source of EMSC-wide information. EMSC program (enacted by Congress in 1984) is the only federal program dedicated to serving acutely ill and injured children. The program will celebrate four decades of progress towards its mission of high-quality emergency care for children across the nation.
- **NEMESIS version 3.5 transition update**
The San Diego County EMS Office is pleased to announce the upcoming LEMSIS Elite transition

to the NEMSIS 3.5 standard. This work, completed with the assistance of multiple stakeholders, is nearing completion. In addition to making necessary updates to the data collection and processing system, County EMS has worked with external platforms, including billing companies and FirstWatch, to ensure a seamless transition for LEMSIS users.

County EMS appreciates the assistance and advice provided by our LEMSIS users in this important work. Please contact the EMS Office with questions via EMSNotifications@sdcounty.ca.gov

- **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.

- **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 agencies 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.

- **Hospital UPDATE:** Sharp Healthcare wanted me to pass along some information that all Sharp hospitals will be migrating to EPIC on March 1, 2024. Starting at 0500, they will be on "downtime" which means paper documenting until they can transition to their new patient record system. There may be some delays in transfer of care, at least initially, as they learn the new process of registering patients and merging prehospital charts with the correct patient.

5. OPIOID EPIDEMIC MITIGATION (Tyler Meick)

- Leave Behind Naloxone Program
 - Program is established and moving along nicely.
 - Reminder to please email your quarterly reports to Nate Burger, nate.burger@sdcounty.ca.gov
- 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.
 - There are currently three active programs in the county.
 - AMR in CSA-17, San Diego County Fire in Pine Valley area and Escondido Fire.
 - The program will be expanding into the El Cajon area with AMR and Heartland Fire. Currently in training and expected to launch in approximately 30 days. Anticipate staffing of 4 units.
 - Met with Sharp Grossmont last week as part of the program expansion.
 - Discussed Substance Abuse Navigator program.
 - Interested in meeting with other healthcare systems to discuss their Substance Abuse Navigator programs.
 - Please contact Tyler Meick if interested, Tyler.Meick@sdcounty.ca.gov.
 - County continues to hold bi-monthly Substance Abuse Navigator meetings.
 - To date there has not been Buprenorphine administration in the field.
 - We are looking at data for missed opportunities and expanding into other areas.
 - Nate Burger is the point of contact for this program, nathan.burger@sdcounty.ca.gov

6. COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE (Tyler Meick)

- Tyler Meick provided an update on Community Paramedicine.
- Program is on hold due to lack of CEMIS Data being reported to State.
- Will continue to work through this issue.
- Seeking TAD locations.
- AB 767 was signed into law this year.
 - Includes authorization for Paramedics to preform Short Term Post Discharge Follow up.
- Currently monitoring SB 975 which potentially provides for reimbursement of Community Paramedicine operations.
- Please contact Nate Burger for more information @ nathan.burger@sdcounty.ca.gov

7. CARDIAC UPDATES

- CARES (Brad Schwartz, MD)
 - No update
- Bystander CPR Workgroup (Brad Schwartz, MD)
 - Committee continues to meet.
 - Press Conference kick-off on February 26, 2024.
 - Website launch.
 - Still looking for a celebrity champion spokesperson.
 - Please contact Dr. Schwartz for more information @ bradschwartz66@gmail.com.
- San Diego Resuscitation Consortium (Saul Levine, MD)
 - ECMO/ECPR Program update.
 - Program continues to thrive.
 - Over 50 alerts to date.
 - About 12 patients went on ECMO.
 - Making steps to improve quality.
 - Potential opportunities for ECMO.
 - Measurable improvements on scene times.
 - Invited to attend Los Angeles County ECMO/ECPR Program meeting.

8. EBM LECTURE SERIES SURVEY (Michael Assof)

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

- Dr. Chris Kahn discussed AB 2225, currently in the Legislature.
 - Assembly Bill is related to Protection of EMS Quality Assurance and Improvement.
- The BSPC meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

EVIDENCE BASED MEDICINE PRESENTATION

Prehospital Treatment of Sepsis
Dr. Claire Gahm

PAC MEETING

CHAired BY (Andy Fischer, MD)

1. CONFIRMATION OF CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS (Amanda Keating)

2. CALL TO ORDER (Andy Fischer, MD)

- Dr. Fischer called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

3. BASE HOSPITAL NURSE COORDINATORS (BHNC) REPORT (Brian Covell)

- Brian Covell shared updates, reminders, and kudos from BHNC group.
- BHNC's are assisting Stroke Coordinators with Dr. Farah's FAST ED Stroke Study.
- Cheryl Graydon from Palomar has created a report that will assist with collecting data.
- If any of the Stroke Coordinators need assistance with completing the Stroke Study, please reach out to Base Hospital Coordinator.
- BHNC's are monitoring and analyzing Cardiac Arrest Data to verify ECPR criteria.
- Interfacility transfers – thanked the dispatch agencies that are providing the daytime run number data for 911 ALS IFT's to help BHNC in creating PAC Reports.
- With the new LEMSIS 3.5 upgrade - shared IFT information helps create data for PAC trends.
- Offered sincere appreciation to Cheryl Pacheco, Barbara Stepanski and Linda Rosenberg for their years of service and collaborative efforts to continuously improve our EMS System. They will be retiring at the end of the month.

4. MAC REPORT (Jennifer Farah, MD)

- One case was discussed, as were PAC Pearls.

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.

6. WRAP UP & NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next BSPC/PAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday March 19, 2024.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.