



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

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 | 11:00 am

Minutes/Notes

1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS (Jennifer Farah, MD)

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

- Brian Lieberman from San Miguel Fire-Rescue was introduced.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Kahn, seconded by Dr. Fischer, to approve the October 17, 2023, BSPC/PAC meeting minutes.

3. OPENING REMARKS (Kristi Koenig, MD)

- Dr. Koenig provided information on the following topics:
- Crisis in San Diego: Whether it is cyber security, gun violence, fires, or infectious disease outbreaks, it seems like we are always dealing with various crisis. Thank you all for the work you do 24/7 to keep our communities safe. You are appreciated.
- Importance of Professionalism
 - As the holiday season brings stress as well as joy, please be kind to each other.
- Highlights from today's agenda.
 - Heat Event Surveillance
 - Opioid Mitigation Strategies
 - EBM Presentation on Xylazine by Dr. Bill Lynch.
 - Community Paramedicine
 - Revive & Survive updates
 - ECPR Pilot Program
 - Reminder to enroll eligible patients and get off scene quickly.
 - Two patients were identified yesterday.
- January's Evidence Based Medicine Presentation will be on Protocol Revisions.
- It is Flu Season. In addition to an increase in flu cases, we are seeing large spikes in RSV and Covid cases are rising.
- The new Fall Covid-19 vaccine and Influenza vaccines are available now.
 - Covid, Flu and RSV vaccines are encouraged to protect you, your family, and our patients.

4. DATA PRESENTATION (Barbara Stepanski)

Barbara Stepanski provided a presentation on Heat Event Surveillance.

- County of San Diego - Excessive Heat Response Plan.
- This plan establishes guidelines for responding to excessive heat events in the county.
- It is coordinated between County departments and external partners, such as the National Weather Service, Aging and Independent Services, County Libraries, Behavioral Health, Animal Services, SDGE, 211, CAL OES and others.
- When the National Weather Service communicates a Heat Event in any of our climate zones,

the plan is activated.

- It mobilizes stakeholders to determine the appropriate course of action for that event.
- For EMS, the task is to monitor 911 calls during these official Heat Events.
- Review of Heat Event data per year 2013 – 2023.
 - Primary Impressions 2023.

5. COUNTY REPORT (Michael Assof)

- Health Services Capacity Plan [Level](#): Plan Level 4 – Enhanced Surveillance
Southern California Fire Preparedness [Level](#): Plan Level 2
- **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. Additional information and timelines are posted on the County EMS webpage.
The next community engagement phase will include listening sessions on November 7-9. These sessions will be held in each of the Supervisorial Districts. Additional information will be distributed as details are finalized.
Community Engagement Page: [Base Station Hospital & Trauma Catchment Review | Engage San Diego County](#)
CoSD EMS Informational Page: [Comprehensive Evaluation of the Base Hospital System and Trauma Center Catchment Area Designation \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)
- **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.
The next step is to review the public comments and incorporate any revisions into draft protocols. The draft protocols will be presented at the Base Station Physicians' Committee or BSPPC in early 2024.
- **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.
- **Health Officer Order for Annual Influenza Season**
The annual influenza season is upon us. The health officer order is evergreen and in force through the designated influenza season (November 1-March 31). The influenza letter requires, among other things, that healthcare personnel (including EMS credentialed personnel) wear a mask in patient care areas if they choose to not be vaccinated for influenza. As a reminder, the "Jury Duty letter" has been discontinued, as any jury summons can be deferred for any reason anytime.
You can view the health order here: [Health Officer Order \(HOO\) - Annual Influenza Season](#)
- **Public Comment Process**

The Draft Policy Public Comment page was recently updated to reflect multiple policies that will be posted for public comment soon. 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 \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](https://sandiegocounty.gov)

- **County EMS Office Holiday Closure Advisory**

Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23rd

Day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 24th

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th

New Years Day, Monday, January 1st, 2024

6. OPIOID EPIDEMIC MITIGATION (Tyler Meick)

- Leave Behind Naloxone Program
 - No Report
- 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.
 - We are working on program expansion.
 - We anticipate additional agencies will join the pilot program in the near future.
 - Currently in discussions with San Diego County Fire to offer Buprenorphine in the Pine Valley area and AMR for potential expansion.
 - 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.

7. 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.
- It gave us options including Triage to Alternate Destination, but also required that these programs must operate in a very specific way.
- 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 of the new requirements was for Paramedic Service Providers documentation.
- Will resubmit the application and hoping to get it worked out soon.
- Working to make other programs stronger.
- For additional information, please visit our Community Paramedicine webpage.

8. STROKE STUDY (Jennifer Farah, MD)

- Dr. Farah provided an overview of the FAST-ED Stroke Study.
- FAST-ED Score is a new protocol that went live on July 1, 2023.
- This is a Stroke Severity Score.
- After BE-FAST is performed to identify a field stroke, a FAST-ED Score should also be completed to give a grade to the presumed stroke severity.
- Intention of the rollout is to find out how we are doing.
 - How often we are doing the FAST-ED score.
 - What is the spectrum of FAST-ED scores in relation to large-vessel occlusions.
 - Looking to see if there is any correlation between scores.
 - Data collection Jan 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024.
 - Will follow all prehospital strokes to conclusion.
- Ask of EMS Providers
 - Please perform the FAST-ED assessment and report the score, both in ePCR and verbal report.
- Videos and supplemental materials are available and will be sent out as a pass-along item after the meeting.

9. CARDIAC UPDATES

- CARES (Brad Schwartz, MD)
 - Dr Schwartz provided a CARES update.
 - Still working on collecting all the data.
 - It is important to get data into CARES.
 - High quality CPR training is needed.
- Bystander CPR Workgroup (Brad Schwartz, MD)
 - Revive & Survive Committee continues to meet.
 - Established an Executive Committee that will meet within the next few weeks.
 - Currently identifying partners.
 - How to define and measure training.
 - Did we improve Cardiac Arrest survival.
 - Continue to train personnel in high quality CPR.
 - Please contact Dr. Schwartz for more information @ bradschwartz66@gmail.com.
- San Diego Resuscitation Consortium Workgroup (Saul Levine, MD)
 - SDRC continues with additional cases being enlisted for consideration of ECPR at select centers.
 - About 35 ECPR Alerts since July – ECPR Alerts.
 - Many of the cases had ROSC, so they were not eligible for ECMO.
 - Tracking data including how many patients are getting put on ECMO.
 - Time on scene
 - Arrest to ECPR arrival
 - Arrest pump
 - ECPR Dashboard Presentation
 - Preliminary Data
 - July – September 2023

- Will provide real-time program updates.
- More to come next year.
- Next SDRC meeting is December 8th.
- Please contact Dr. Levine for more information @ levine.saul@gmail.com.

10. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS/BSPC ADJOURNMENT (Jennifer Farah, MD)

- The BSPC meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.

EVIDENCE BASED MEDICINE PRESENTATION

Xylazine in the Illicit Drug Supply:
Impact on Overdose Management
Dr. William J. Lynch Jr.

PAC MEETING

CHAired BY (Andy Fischer, MD)

1. **CONFIRMATION OF CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS (Cheryl Pacheco)**
2. **CALL TO ORDER (Andy Fischer, MD)**
 - Dr. Fischer called the meeting to order at 1:14 pm.
3. **BASE HOSPITAL NURSE COORDINATORS (BHNC) REPORT (Brian Covell)**
 - Brian Covell thanked the group for all they do every day to provide the best care for our patients.
4. **MAC REPORT (Jennifer Farah, MD)**
 - Discussed the Trauma Border Calls and Trauma Catchment Area memo that went out.
 - The Trauma Centers are watching this very closely.
 - Please be precise as to where the patient was picked up.
 - Identifying border patients can be tricky.
 - Follow Trauma Catchment protocols.
5. **PAC REPORT (Andy Fischer, MD)**

Five 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 January 16, 2024.
Meeting was adjourned at 2:06 pm.