



County of San Diego

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
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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) MEETING

Frank Parra, Chair/ Chara Cote, R.N., Vice-Chair
c/o Emergency Medical Services
Virtual meeting via Zoom

Minutes

Thursday, November 19, 2020

Members Present

Abbott, Stephen – District 5
Adler, Fred – District 3
Blacksberg, David – HASDIC
Carlson, Sharon – HASDIC (Alt)
Cote, R.N., Chara – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
Covell, R.N., Brian – District 2
Froelich, Dan – County Paramedic Agencies' Committee
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Emergency Nurses' Association
Kahn, M.D., Christopher – District 4
Lyons, R.N., Laura – American Red Cross
Maxwell, Paul – SD County Paramedic Association
McJannet, R.N., Catherine – District 1
Molloy, Bernie – SD County Fire Districts' Association
Parra, Frank – SD County Fire Chiefs' Association
Pearson, Danielle – County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses' Association (Alt)
Scott, M.D., Christopher – SD County Medical Society
Wells, R.N., Chris – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators (Alt)

Not in Attendance

Law Enforcement Agencies
Military Agencies
SD County Ambulance Association

In Attendance

Baudoin, Madeleine – AMR
Caplan, Gregg – Ambu Inc
Chandler, Craig – Stryker
Forney, Paul – AMR
Hayflich, Vanessa – Mercy Air/Air Methods
Hinton, William – Mercy Air
Hodges, Annie – Alvarado
Lord, Scott – Mercy Air
Meadows-Pitt, Mary – Grossmont
Rios, Matt – Navy Region SW
Ruiz, Sal – CSA-17 EMS Coordinator
Seabloom, Lynn – Oceanside FD
Sullivan, Don – AMR
Sumek, Caryn – HASDIC
Vilke, Gary – North Zone

County Staff

Beam, Jamie
Chmielewski, R.N., Lorraine
Cavanaugh, Adria
Christison, Brian
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Falcon, Sebastian
Gall, Jessica
Hrubvock, Wendy
Martin, Adelver

Pacheco, R.N., Cheryl
Parr, Andy
Pitner, Jaime
Schoenheit, R.N., Candy
Smith, PhD, Josh
Tuteur, M.D., Jennifer

I. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ INTRODUCTIONS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Frank Parra, EMCC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Due to the meeting being held virtually, the group skipped the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions. No announcements were made. Attendance was captured online via the chat box.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions submitted.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Chris Scott, seconded by Dan Froelich to approve the October 22, 2020 minutes. Motion carried by consensus.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Chara Cote, RN

The group met. Discussion on updates on status of P-801 and S-010. Also discussed S-008; Dr. Chris Scott had proposed changes and will bring back to Prehospital/Hospital in January.

B. Education/Research Subcommittee – Cheryl Graydon, RN

Did not meet. Has been in communication with County EMS staff. Plan to meet starting in January to start looking at AB 1544. Working on who will be put on the committee. Still looking for an active paramedic. When review in January, will determine if any other professionals that are outlined in the AB 1544 requirements that would need to be included. Will send e-vites for the committee. Can refer to the back of the EMCC agenda for the list of members on each subcommittee.

C. Disaster Planning Subcommittee – David Blackberg

Did not meet. Continue to monitor COVID-19 effects on hospitals, ambulatory centers and the County; continue to respond as expected.

V. COUNTY REPORT (Reports)

A. Clinical Report – Jennifer Tuteur, MD

1. The MAYO Clinic has at least 905 of their healthcare workers who are COVID-19 positive. All have been community-acquired. We need to be vigilant as our own community gets more widespread. 4Ws: Wash your hands, Wear face covering, Walk away, Wait at home.
2. Antibodies: Bamlanivimab medication is a monoclonal antibody that is currently in scarce supply. Expecting to have distributions every week allocated through the Federal Government, to the State, then to our County. The first distributions came over the weekend to hospitals to treat those with mild to moderate illness. The next supply will go to the SNFs or outpatient facilities.

3. Vaccinations are coming along very well. 90% and above for efficacy. Many more vaccines in the works. Allocation for high-risk healthcare workers and first responders. Many hospitals are working hard at how it will be distributed.

B. Administrative Report – Brian Christison

1. Flu – The flu season is upon us. The Public Health Officer Flu Order effective November 1 – March 31, which requires all healthcare personnel wear a mask in patient care areas if they choose to not be vaccinated for the flu.
2. COVID-19 Watch is available on the www.coronavirus-sd.com website. The COVID-19 Watch is a weekly summary of statistical information on the COVID-19 Pandemic in San Diego.
3. TOC Compliance Transfer of Care (TOC) times are one of the many metrics monitored 24/7 by County EMS to assure access to quality and timely care in our organized EMS delivery system. Over the last year, TOC compliance has decreased across the County, which reduces our ability to monitor system demand. Please remember that the paramedic and nurse should agree together to “push the button” either on the medic’s device or the emergency department computer. Increasing your TOC compliance is the best way to improve your publicly reported offload times since the unit ‘back in service’ time is used to calculate the offload time if the TOC Button is not pushed. Please note that EMS agencies using the County-provided ePCR do not need to push the TOC Button as that data is integrated directly from the PCR. These agencies will show up with a “LEMSIS” sign in place of the TOC Button. Senior Epidemiologist Josh Smith provided a PowerPoint presentation on New Offload Delay Data for County of San Diego TOC.
4. San Marcos County EMS is pleased to welcome San Marcos Fire to the LEMSIS platform. They went live October 27th, and data is already flowing to the State!
5. Policies and Protocols – The 2019-2020 protocol review process was well underway in when the COVID-19 pandemic upended the process. As a review, The Treatment Protocol Task Force met November 15, 2019. This comprehensive discussion was followed by drafts over the winter months, and BSPC reviewed and approved multiple protocol updates in January and February. County EMS has restarted the remaining reviews, with an anticipated July 1, 2021 implementation date.
6. Capacity Plan – The All-Hazard Health Service Capacity Management Plan is currently at a Level 1 Full Activation. EMS Epidemiologists are carefully monitoring the Healthcare and EMS system metrics. The current Plan Level is prominently posted on the EMS Section’s webpage at SanDiegoCountyEMS.com.
7. The Health Services Capacity Task Force held their annual meeting on Tuesday, September 27. All task force members, especially those on the Operational Core Group, are heartily thanked for their continuing attendance and cooperation.
8. County EMS Duty Officer has a new phone number for notifications. All notifications will be processed through the San Diego County Monte Vista Interagency Command Center (MVICC) instead of the County’s call center. The new EMS Duty Officer phone number is 619-588-0397.
In October 2020, the EMS Duty Officer received 11 calls:
 - 7 calls were regarding offload delays
 - An exposure report, a hospital Internal Disaster event, and a communication problem accounted for 3 calls.
9. EMS Plan Data Requests – It is EMS Plan data submission time. All EMS agencies have (or will be receiving) data submission forms. Thank you to all the agencies that have submitted the requested data. This data is necessary and is required before the LEMSA can submit the EMS plan to EMSA. Any questions regarding this data request, please contact EMS Specialist Gary Laugen.
10. Non-operational County-owned EMS radios to come home.

11. The EMCC Education and Research Subcommittee will reconvene in January. The Emergency Medical Care Committee has three subcommittees: Prehospital/Hospital, Disaster Preparedness, and Education and Research. Each Board of Supervisors-appointed EMCC member also sits on one or more of these important subcommittees. The Education and Research Subcommittee will meet quarterly, or more frequently, as needed. This reactivated group will focus on the current Community Paramedic pilot program and advising County EMS on the recently signed-AB 1544.

C. EOC Report – Andy Parr

EMS Administrator gave an update report from the County’s Emergency Operation Center (EOC) regarding activities ongoing. Work continues at a high tempo. Grave concern over the increased cases and deaths. Working hard on messaging, repeated messaging about Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs). There is a press conference today regarding compliance.

VI. SYSTEM POLICY REVIEW (EMCC Advisory Position)

A. Ad hoc Committees

- i. P-801: Designation of Providers of Advanced Life Support Service – Ad hoc Committee Status Report (Dr. Chris Kahn)

The committee met a few weeks ago. Drafts were sent out to each representative on the committee. Will bring back to Prehospital/Hospital in January for a vote, then to the full EMCC.

- ii. S-010: Guidelines for Hospitals Requesting Ambulance Diversion – Ad hoc Committee Status Report (Dr. Chris Scott)

Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee previously approved this policy to move forward to the full EMCC, but County EMS Trauma staff had minor requests for language adjustments. Adjustments were made and it was re-approved at Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee. It will be sent out to the full EMCC to allow time to review it prior to bringing it back to the EMCC meeting in January for vote.

B. Policy Review

- i. T-705: Trauma Catchment Service Area – Candy Schoenheit

- ii. T-710: Designation of a Trauma Center – Candy Schoenheit

These policies have been through MAC and Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee for review and updates. Several changes were made, mostly on wording. Will be brought back to Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee in January for review and formally move forward to the full EMCC.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Comprehensive Evaluation of the Base Hospital System and Trauma Catchment Area Designations**

After the last EMCC meeting, Supervisors Diane Jacob and Nathan Fletcher determined there is a need for a comprehensive evaluation of the base hospital system and trauma catchment area designations. A board letter was generated, which passed on Tuesday. The CAO was directed on Tuesday to come back with a plan within 90 days. Will be

reporting back to the Board of Supervisors on the plan to complete the comprehensive evaluation.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. P-701: EMT-Paramedic Base Hospital Designation – Policy Review

The Board Letter supersedes any further discussion. This item to be removed from the agenda.

B. Emergency Medical Care Committee – Sunset Review

ACTION: A motion was made by Dan Froelich, seconded by Chris Scott to approve the Sunset Review Report that will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors. Motion carried by consensus.

IX. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: The following items were suggested that County EMS staff work on in early January before the EMCC Meeting.

- **Review the committee's re-assembling of members.**
- **Address members' term expiration dates.**
- **Send out compliance of statutes and laws regarding the meetings and outline what the subcommittees are supposed to do; discuss at the January meeting.**

December meeting is dark. The next EMCC meeting is planned to be held virtually on January 28, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 10:21 AM.