



County of San Diego

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC) MEETING

Paul Forney, Chair/ Lisha Wiese, Vice Chair
c/o SD County Emergency Medical Services Office
County Operations Center
5560 Overland Avenue, Rm 171, San Diego, CA 92123

Minutes
Thursday, May 23, 2024

Members Present

Bojanowski, R.N., Michael – American Red Cross
Cote, R.N., Chara – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
Forney, Paul – SD County Ambulance Association
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Emergency Nurses’ Association
Hanks, Sgt. Michael – Law Enforcement Agencies
Jordan, Jonathan – SD County Fire Districts’ Association
Kahn, M.D., Christopher – District 4
Maxwell, Paul – SD County Paramedic Association
Sloane, M.D., Christian – District 5
Twyman, Lt. Glen – Law Enforcement Agencies (Alt)
Wells, R.N., Christine – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators (Alt)
Wiese, Lisha – Hospital Association of SD/Imperial Counties

In Attendance

Ramirez, Humberto – Brougham Ambulance
Smith, Ray – CVFD
Sullivan, Don – AMR

Not in Attendance

District 1
District 2
District 3
County Paramedic Agencies Committee
Military Agencies
SD County Fire Chiefs’ Association
SD County Medical Society

County Staff

Assof, Michael
Christison, Brian
Collins, Jeff
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Haidari, Tareq
Meick, Tyler
Parr, Andy
Trousdale, Brad
Vithalani, MD, Veer

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

- A. Paul Forney, EMCC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM. A quorum was not declared.
- B. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. There were no introductions.
- D. There were no announcements.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Jonathan Jordan, seconded by Chara Cote to approve the March 28, 2024 minutes and the April 25, 2024 meeting notes. Motion carried.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Chara Cote, RN

Did not meet.

B. Education and Research Subcommittee – Cheryl Graydon, RN

Did not meet.

C. Disaster Planning Subcommittee – Lisha Wiese

Hospitals and many other agencies participated in a surge exercise on 4/30, with about 100 agencies that participated. Currently going through the course of action list and what can be done better next time. Also preparing for another surge exercise that is pediatric focused; scheduled for later in the fall. More to come.

V. COUNTY REPORT

A. Administrative Report – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator & Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator

- The Comprehensive Base Station Hospital and Trauma Catchment Area Consultant:
The consultant has delivered the Final Draft report to the County EMS Office, and we are preparing to release the documents for public review. Following the release there will be two opportunities to ask questions of the consultant and County staff. All information regarding the report and a portal for comments is on the San Diego County Engage Page. The Reports will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for their acceptance on July 16, 2024.
- Protocols:
The San Diego County EMS 2024-2025 treatment protocol revision cycle concluded in April and all protocols and policies are posted on the County EMS website. The protocol and policy updates take effect July 1, 2024.

On May 1, all fire and EMS agencies were sent an education packet that included a protocol and policy updates presentation, protocol changelog, protocol packet, and quiz.

After a review of the materials, an agency identified some inconsistencies in protocols P-115A Pediatric Weight-Based Dosage Standards and P-117 ALS Pediatric Drug Chart (Turquoise). These two protocols were revised and new versions are posted on the County EMS webpage.

On May 20, all fire and EMS agencies were sent an updated education materials packet with the revisions via LEMSIS. Additionally, you can access revised copies of the protocol changelog and protocol packet on the Prehospital Policies and Protocols page.

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback and supported the efforts to revise our protocols to ensure high quality, patient-centered care.

- Job Opportunities at County EMS:
The San Diego County EMS Office is currently seeking applicants for a number of positions. These positions may be full time employees of the County, and others may be in a temporary position – in the County classification system, these positions are called Temporary Expert Professionals or TEPs. TEP work may be full or part time. The County is currently in the recruitment process for Quality Assurance Specialists, in both full-time and temporary positions. Emergency Medical Services Specialist hiring list may be opening soon. The EMS Office is internally hiring an Admin Analyst II and an Epidemiologist II for our work on future projects and possible system redesign. Interested persons considering employment with County EMS with the following expertise are highly desirable:
 - EMS quality assurance,
 - emergency operations and planning,
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- EMS system innovation,
- and those with experience in emergency telecommunications, data analysis, and EHR integration.

Please see the County's employment website for more information and/or share your CV with the hiring team at Nicole.DeIToro@sdcounty.ca.gov

- STEMI and Stroke Data Submission for State CEMSIS:
The State EMS Authority hosted a STEMI and Stroke Data Workshop the first week of April. This meeting was geared towards LEMSAs and the individual stroke and STEMI facilities. EMSA is reinvigorating the STEMI and stroke data CEMSIS registry initiatives following a pandemic pause. STEMI and stroke program leaders should review the data requirements contained in the CA Code of Regulations, Chapters 7.1 and 7.2. We anticipate additional data and reporting schedule regulation updates being posted for public comment soon. The draft regulations may be found on the EMSA website under the "About" tab when posted.
- National Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project
The San Diego County EMS Office is encouraging all EMS agencies to complete the annual National Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project (PPRP) survey which is a joint initiative on the national level to evaluate the readiness of all EMS and fire-rescue agencies to care for ill or injured children. **The assessment opened May 1st and will run through July 31st.**
Assessment Link: [Link to Survey](#)
- County EMS Fees going up July 1, 2024:
The San Diego County Board of Supervisors endorsed a new fee schedule to be implemented in a phased approach. The fees being adjusted are personnel fees, specialty care fees and EMS permit fees. If you have questions or comments, please see our website at www.sandiegocountyems.com to see the updated fee schedule.
- Current Medication Shortages:
Information on medication shortages, as well as mitigation strategies, can be found on our Medication Shortages Page: [Medication Shortages Page](#). County EMS is continuously monitoring potential medication shortages from open sources as well as at our County Pharmacies and from EMS Agency Reporting. County EMS has issued a temporary exemption on ketamine, which is in effect until June 20, 2024. Some other potential system-wide shortages are epinephrine 1:10,000 and albuterol. Agencies are advised to monitor par levels and agency stock to assure that you are in compliance with County EMS Policy P-806.
- County EMS Office Holiday Closure Advisory: Memorial Day, May 27, 2024 & Juneteenth, June 19, 2024.

VI. SYSTEM POLICY REVIEW (Endorsement Vote)

- A. S-610 Ambulance Patient Offload Time Standard (ratification)
- Transfer of Patient Care Guidelines

The recommendation from the committee at the last meeting was to endorse these documents.

A motion was made by Chara Cote, seconded by Cheryl Graydon to endorse Policy S-610. Motion carried.

VII. REPORTS

- A. Base Hospital/Trauma Catchment Review (Andy Parr, EMS Administrator)

An update was provided under agenda item V. COUNTY REPORT.

- B. Community Paramedicine (Tyler Meick, EMS Coordinator)

The LEMSA's application for state authorization remains on hold until CEMSIS data submission issues are resolved.

- C. Ambulance Ordinance Update: Goals and Process (Brian Christison, Program Coordinator)
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The plan to gather input for the Ambulance Ordinance update was presented to this committee in January. The highlights of the draft Ambulance Ordinance have been taken to multiple groups, including the Ambulance Association. Staff are meeting with the non-emergency medical transport providers through MTS in the next couple of weeks. The draft ordinance public comment process will be managed through the County of San Diego Engage portal. Part of this engagement process will include comment from the general public.

D. Data Submission Progress (Brian Christison, Program Coordinator)

The LEMSIS EPCR platform continues to send data in the NEMSIS 3.5 version to CEMSIS. Generally this transition has been going well; there will be a couple small tweaks in the coming weeks. We continue to be engaged with the WATER users, primarily with representatives from the City of San Diego and Carlsbad, on ironing out that last elements for the schematron update to deliver WATER data in NEMSIS 3.5 standards to LEMSIS, to then be submitted to CEMSIS and then to NEMSIS. The WATER platform is currently not in 3.5, but work continues to implement this update, as well as alignment with the LEMSIS data standards. Anticipate having some test data from that platform in the near future.

E. Maddy Fund Report will be available in June.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Proposed Fee Schedule (Follow Up Information) – Brian Christison, Program Coordinator

The following presentation was shared with the group: [EMS Fee Package FY 2024-25](#)

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Base Hospital/Trauma Catchment Review

An update was provided under agenda item VII. REPORTS.

X. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 27, 2024, 9:30 am at the County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Hwy, BOS Room 302, Sand Diego 92101. Meeting adjourned at 10:08 am.