



County of San Diego

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC) MEETING

Paul Forney, Chair/ Dr. Chris Scott, Vice Chair
c/o SD County Emergency Medical Services Office
5560 Overland Ave, Rm 171, San Diego 92123

Minutes **Thursday, June 22, 2023**

Members Present

Cote, R.N., Chara – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
Davis, Sgt. Mike – Law Enforcement Agencies
Froelich, Dan – County Paramedic Agencies Committee
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Emergency Nurses' Association
Jordan, Jonathan – SD County Fire Districts' Association
Lyons, R.N., Laura – American Red Cross
Muns, Harry – San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association (Alt)
Murphy, Mary – County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)
Scott, M.D., Christopher – SD County Medical Society
Sloane, M.D., Christian – District 5
Wiese, Lisha – Hospital Association of SD/Imperial Counties

In Attendance

Chandler, Craig – Stryker
Duffy, Jenny – San Marcos FD
Lord, Scott – Mercy Air
Pearson, Nate – Carlsbad FD
Smith, Ray – Chua Vista FD

Not in Attendance

District 1
District 2
District 3
District 4
Military Agencies
San Diego County Ambulance Association
San Diego County Paramedic Association

County Staff

Assof, Michael
Collins, Jeff
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Parr, Andy
Regier, Marc
Trousedale, Brad

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

- A. Dr. Christopher Scott, EMCC Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM. A quorum was declared.
- B. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. There were no introductions or 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 Cheryl Graydon to approve the May 25, 2023 EMCC minutes. Motion carried.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Chara Cote, RN**

- Discussed Policy T-460 – going back for public comments.
- Policies S-002, B-325 and D-822 – will be addressed today.
- Discussed Policy S-836 – not approved to move forward due to language issues. Will go back to public comments or to Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee.

B. Education and Research Subcommittee – Cheryl Graydon, RN

- Community Paramedicine update was given by Dr. Chris Kahn. He provided an update on the San Diego Pilot Program, currently not enrolling anyone; waiting for the community paramedicine regs to avoid any conflicts. Continuing to follow up on high volume users and have weekly meetings.

C. Disaster Planning Subcommittee – Lisha Wiese

- Hospitals are preparing for a pediatric surge exercise in October.
- Submarine accident and PIO messaging tabletop exercise in the Fall.
- Statewide exercise moved from November 2023 to the Spring 2024; scenario is TBD.

V. COUNTY REPORT

A. Administrative Report – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator

- Health Services Capacity Plan Level at Level 4 – Enhanced Surveillance; Southern California Fire Preparedness Level is at Level 2.
- The Comprehensive Base Station Hospital and Trauma Catchment Area Consultant’s work is underway: As part of the ongoing endgame process for this work, the stakeholder survey is open for comment collection through June. This survey is open to all stakeholders, including field providers, emergency department staff, agency administrators, specialty care centers, and the general public. These comments will be informative to our contractor team. This survey will be open through June. This survey, along with other research and stakeholder input will assist in the formulation of 6 different models for us to compare as models for the future of EMS 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. Additional information and timelines are posted on the County EMS webpage.

[Comprehensive Evaluation of the Base Hospital System and Trauma Center Catchment Area Designation \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov)

- Policies and Protocols: The 2023-2024 protocol review is completed. A summary of all updates is posted on the County EMS webpage. The timeline for final implementation is on track for July 1, 2023.

Some notable additions to this year’s protocol package include:

- TXA for significant traumatic and post-partum hemorrhage
- Buprenorphine pilot program
- Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation Cardiac Arrest pilot
- The FAST-ED stroke severity score

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for taking the time to provide valuable recommendations for change, and to critically evaluate the draft protocols to make our system as up-to-date and evidence informed as possible.

- EMS Fleetmap changes coming soon: Kaiser Permanente will be opening a new satellite hospital in the San Marcos area with emergency department services. This hospital is slated to open in August 2023. In anticipation of this facility opening, RCS has created two new 800 Mhz radio talk groups.

- *KSMAR* will be added to the “BLS” zone.
- *SD MEDAIR2* will be added to the “BLS” zone to be used as the secondary air to ground channel between the scene and air ambulance providers.

RCS/Sheriff Wireless is currently planning this integration with updated fleet map(s) and a plan to create new “code plugs” which are needed to reprogram all necessary Fire, EMS, and public/private agency radios.

- Phase 1, RCS will need to “touch” every radio in every ambulance. A plan is already underway to update ambulances in the North County first, then ambulances in the central region, and so forth.

- Phase 2 will include fire apparatus, law enforcement and any other remaining vehicles. Agencies will be notified when it's their turn to update radios. Agencies may be asked to bring vehicles (& radios) to a centralized location to facilitate the rapid update of your agency's radios. Once notified of the coming updates and schedule, we ask that all agencies and companies to coordinate with RCS/Sheriff Wireless to ensure these updates occur in a timely manner.
- EMS Mobile App: The San Diego County EMS Office is pleased to announce our new EMS Mobile App!
 - The app is now available to the community at emsmobile.sandiegocounty.gov and a link is located on our homepage as well.
 - The EMS Mobile App is a browser-based application and works on any device with an internet connection and web browser. The app allows users to easily search through all protocols and policies using keywords. In addition, users can bookmark specific protocols and policies to quickly access them at any time.
 - The EMS Mobile App also has a references section with important resources for our hospital and prehospital healthcare professionals.
- Upcoming State Paramedic Scope of Practice changes: The State of California EMS Authority has notified stakeholders that a regulatory update to include additional medications for the paramedic scope of practice posted for a 45-day public comment period that recently closed. These additions would move TXA, ketorolac, ketamine, and IV acetaminophen from Local Optional Scope of Practice to basic scope, lowering the regulatory burden for those LEMSAs adopting these treatment modalities. County EMS supports these adjustments and are proud that our local successes with ketamine and acetaminophen have provided support to this enhancement in state paramedic practice. These proposed changes are expected to be before the EMS Commission this Fall.
- Public Comment Process is LIVE and improving everyday
 - Public Comment Posting Notification email "subscription" is active. Please submit your email if you would like to receive notification of upcoming public comment periods
 - "Coming Soon" policy notifications are regularly updated
 - Comments will be shared with the Prehospital/ Hospital Subcommittee as well as posted to the Recently Concluded Public Comment Drafts
 - Several draft policies just concluded the public comment phase; more are coming soon
 - (SOP for PMs, 460A, ECPR Care Center Designation)
- EMSA Policy Update: As a reminder, the ability for EMS personnel to exercise the expanded services allowed by the Governor's Executive Order ended February 28. EMS personnel are no longer be able to:
 - Perform their current SOP in hospitals, Alternate Care Sites, Shelters, or any other static site
 - Conduct Covid and Influenza testing
 - Provide vaccinations (COVID, Flu, and/or MPX)
 - And paramedics will no longer be authorized to Administer or monitor mAb (Monoclonal Antibody Treatments)
- Current Medication Shortages: County EMS is aware of multiple medication shortages including ipratropium bromide, albuterol, dextrose and activated charcoal. Additional information and guidance on these medication shortages can be found on the homepage of our website. Also, we would like to remind everyone that our previous guidance on the use of metered dose inhalers is still active and paramedics may use albuterol metered dose inhalers in lieu of nebulized albuterol.
- County EMS Office Holiday Closure Advisory: July 4, 2023 – Independence Day.
- Fee Schedule Escalation – Year 3: Two years ago, EMCC gave their approval for a 3-year escalation of EMS personnel fees. Beginning July 1, 2023, EMS personnel fee will escalate \$20 additional dollars to \$146 every other year in accordance with Board Policy B-29 which requires cost recovery for County required services.
- EMS Medical Director Regulatory Oversight: Many of you that have used the County EMS Medical Director as your own will soon be receiving an official termination letter. The final termination date for these services was 7/1/2023. EMS Agency Administrators are requested to update their LMS profile with their EMS Medical Director listed. Even better would be for your EMS Medical Director to have their own LEMSIS Account so they can receive all the official communications send by the EMS Office in real time.

VI. SYSTEM POLICY REVIEW (EMCC Advisory Position)

- A. S-002: LEMSA and Policy Protocol Approval

A motion was made by Dan Froelich, seconded by Laura Lyons to endorse Policy S-002. Motion carried.

- B. B-325: Perilaryngeal Airway Adjuncts Training Program Requirements

A motion was made by Dan Froelich, seconded by Dr. Christian Sloane to endorse Policy B-325. Motion carried.

- C. D-822: Perilaryngeal Airway Adjuncts Service Provider Designation

A motion was made by Dan Froelich, seconded by Jonathan Jordan to endorse Policy D-822. Motion carried.

VII. REPORTS

- A. Base Hospital/Trauma Catchment Review

An update was provided on this project's progress. Please see the County EMS website for up-to-date information.

- B. Community Paramedicine

Our community paramedicine application must be submitted to EMSA prior to September 1, 2023 to be reviewed and returned by October 1, 2023, due to the City's paramedicine program needing to be renewed with the new paramedicine guidelines by November 1, 2023. The Paramedicine Advisory Council is meeting regularly and is reviewing some of our policies. It is likely that fees will be associated with becoming a community paramedicine agency.

Group discussion and Q and A followed.

ACTION: A request was made for County EMS staff to report out on the process of community paramedicine policies and procedures at the next EMCC meeting.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. EMCC Meeting Public Comment

The process for giving public comments is difficult if not in attendance. County EMS is working with leadership and County Counsel to find different ways on how to receive public comments and be identifiable and recordable. County EMS staff will circle back with EMCC on how best handle that when the need can be matched with technology.

X. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 27, 2023 at 9:30 am in person at the County Operations Center – 5560 Overland Ave, Room 171. Meeting adjourned at 10:04.