



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, June 27, 2024**

Members Present

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
Riley, Tobin – SD County Fire Districts’ Association (Alt)
Scott, M.D., Christopher – SD County Medical Society
Uppenkamp, Tina – American Red Cross (Alt)
Wiese, Lisha – Hospital Association of SD/Imperial Counties

In Attendance

Clyons, Jeff – SDFRD
Jackson, Ennis – AMR/RCCP
Lassiter, Sarah – Reach Air
Pearson, Nate – Carlsbad FD
Ramirez, Humberto – Brougham Amb.
Rihan, Sam – Heartland Fire
Sullivan, Don – AMR

Not in Attendance

District 1
District 2
District 3
District 5
County Paramedic Agencies Committee
Military Agencies
SD County Fire Chiefs’ Association
SD County Paramedic Association

County Staff

Assof, Michael
Christison, Brian
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Keane, Melissa
Parr, Andy
Regier, Marc
Trousdale, Brad

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

- A. Paul Forney, EMCC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM. A quorum was 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 Dr. Christopher Kahn, seconded by Chara Cote to approve the May 23, 2024 minutes. Motion carried.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Chara Cote, RN

- 1) Radio issues happening intermittently within hospitals were addressed. It is an ongoing situation that is getting worked on.
- 2) A presentation was given on upcoming policy and attractions. The Communication Failure form is now live and working.

B. Education and Research Subcommittee – Cheryl Graydon, RN

Did not meet.

C. Disaster Planning Subcommittee – Lisha Wiese

- 1) Planning a pediatric surge exercise at the end of October. The date will be provided at the next meeting.
- 2) Hospitals following up on their gaps from last disaster exercise in April. Will bring forward to test again at the next exercise. More to come.

V. COUNTY REPORT

A. Administrative Report – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator

- Health Services Capacity Plan Level: Plan Level 5 – Baseline
Surveillance Southern California Fire Preparedness Level: Plan Level 3
- The Comprehensive Base Station Hospital and Trauma Catchment Area Consultant:
 - The consultant has delivered the Final Draft report to the County EMS Office, and the documents are available for public review.
 - All information regarding the report and a portal for comments is on the [San Diego County Engage Page](#)
 - The public comment period about the report contents is open until June 30, 2024
 - The Reports will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on August 27, 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 Analysisist 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:

- o EMS quality assurance,
- o emergency operations and planning,
- o EMS system innovation,
- o 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.DelToro@sdcountry.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](#)
- **EMS Week Thank You!**
County EMS hosted our second annual EMT Skills Day on May 20, 2024, and we were able to requalify 97 EMTs as they prepared for their upcoming recertification. This opportunity is mostly for “un-rostered” personnel who do not have access to EMS training and CE through their agencies. We especially acknowledge CalFire’s EMS Bureau and the many other cooperating agencies and training programs who volunteered to come to the event to make this event successful. Thank you, and we hope to see you again next year!
- **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.
- **Public Comment Process:**
County Staff are continuously working on policy updates and new draft policies will be posted in the near future. 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. A Draft Policy Public Comment link is also located on the EMS Mobile App.
Public Comment Page Link: [Online Public and Stakeholder Comment Submission Page](#)
- **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 30, 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:**
Independence Day, July 4, 2024

VI. SYSTEM POLICY REVIEW (Endorsement Vote)

There are no policies for review.

VII. REPORTS

A. Base Hospital/Trauma Catchment Review (Brian Christison, Program Coordinator)

An update was provided under agenda item V. COUNTY REPORT. Public comment submission is encouraged. Most of the comments received so far have been from field providers.

B. Ambulance Ordinance Update: Goals and Process (Brian Christison, Program Coordinator)

County staff have completed initial briefings with almost all of the primary stakeholder groups. These briefings have included the Ambulance Association of San Diego County, air ambulance providers, and the non-emergency medical provider working group. Staff will provide a presentation at the next Fire Chiefs' Association EMS section meeting to complete these stakeholder updates.

Similarly, the San Diego County Engage website will have an Ambulance Ordinance Update Project posting in the next couple of days. This page will feature project updates, host surveys related to the ambulance service provision with the county, and draft language in the future. We will be looking for input from both the general public as well as from EMS and healthcare professionals on how we can improve the ordinance.

C. CEMSIS Data Requirement (Brian Christison, Program Coordinator)

The LEMSIS product continues to send NEMSIS 3.5 data to CEMSIS. Like all IT platforms, there are always technical issues to iron out and that work continues.

The LEMSA continues to work on data submission integration with third party ePCR platforms. This work is primarily with WATER but also First Due (another PCR vendor). We anticipate test data to be submitted from WATER in the coming weeks.

Chula Vista Fire Department has adopted the LEMSIS product. It will be a direct entry user effective July 1, 2024. This transition will enable the Chula Vista users to transfer records to other LEMSIS users, post records to receiving hospitals digitally and in real time, as well as provide the abbreviated LEMSIS radio reports and transfer the records to the base hospital. This also brings Chula Vista into compliance with the State statute for CEMSIS submission.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Presentation: Maddy Fund Distribution Methodology – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator & Brian Christison, Program Coordinator

A PowerPoint presentation on the [Maddy Fund](#) was shared with the group.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request by Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee regarding ambulance diversion policy

A motion was made by Dr. Chris Scott for the EMCC to create a subcommittee of interested members and, if appropriate, technical specialists to review the current S-010 policy as well as the Emergency Memo, and make recommendations to County EMS on updating Policy S-010 and reinstating that policy, once updated.

A modified motion was made by Dr. Chris Scott, seconded by Chara Cote, to add this item to next month's EMCC meeting agenda. Motion carried.

X. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 25, 2024, 9:30 am at the County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Hwy, BOS Room 302, Sand Diego 92101. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.