



County of San Diego

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC)
Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Meeting
Chara Cote, RN, Chair/ Christopher Scott, MD, Vice Chair
c/o SD County Emergency Medical Services Office
5560 Overland Ave, Rm 172, San Diego 92123
Thursday, July 13, 2023

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Cote, RN, Chara – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
Mary – County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)
Scott, MD, Christopher – SD County Medical Society

County Staff

Assof, Michael Murphy,
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Rogers, Cody
Trousdale, Brad

Agency Representatives

Kahn, MD, Chris – UCSD
Lord, Scott – Mercy Air
Sullivan, Don – AMR

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chara Cote, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. A quorum was declared.
- There were no introductions.
- There were no announcements.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Chris Scott, seconded Mary Murphy to approve the June 8, 2023 EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions.

IV. COUNTY REPORT – Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator

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

- Policies and Protocols: The 2023-2024 protocols went live on July 1, 2023, and we are actively monitoring the following pilot programs that were initiated:
 - Buprenorphine pilot program
 - Extracorporeal Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (ECPR) pilot program
- 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 9, 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” 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 “touch” ambulances in the North County first, then ambulances in the central, 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 their radios. You may be asked to bring your vehicles (& your 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 EMS Mobile App was launched in May and we are continuously updating the content. We have recently added the following:
 - New policies and protocols that went into effect on July 1
 - FAST-ED assessment tool
 - ECPR pilot program hospitals and information
 - Pearls from PAC
- 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 and more are coming soon
 - (SOP for PMs, 460A, ECPR Care Center Designation)
- 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.

V. POLICIES FOR REVIEW (Updates)

- S-836: Critical Care Transport Unit Inventory

Paul Forney took Policy S-836 back to the San Diego County Ambulance Association for feedback and consensus; and to get further input from local CCT providers.

ACTION: The consensus was that oxytocin and dopamine are generally underutilized and often expire in bags, therefore they should be removed or listed as optional items.

- T-460A: Trauma Decision Tree Algorithm

Working on the revisions that were brought forth at this committee as well as other things that were identified at Pre-PAC. Will have to go back through the MAC process to allow the trauma surgeons to weigh in and review before bringing back to another 30-day public comment period.

- S-8XX: First Responder Inventory

Policy S-8XX is up and posted for public comment from July 6 – August 6.

- S-882: Emergency Medical Dispatch

Policy S-882 continues to be worked on internally to incorporate feedback and will be placed on a second round of public comment.

- S-XXX: LEMSA Data Use and Standards

Policy S-XXX continues to be worked on internally to incorporate feedback and will be placed on a second round of public comment.

- S-400: Management of Controlled Drugs on ALS Units

Policy S-400 will likely go to County Counsel for further review.

- S-416: Supply and Resupply of Designated EMS Agencies and Vehicles

Policy S-416 will likely go to County Counsel for further review.

- P-305: Paramedic Accreditation/Reaccreditation

Policy P-305 is now posted for public comment from July 12 – August 12.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- Update of Ambulance Diversion Ad hoc Committee (Informational)

There is no new update.

ACTION: The following requests were made:

- 1) **Provide a more specific update to the committee.**
- 2) **Move this item on the next agenda from Old Business to New Business.**
- 3) **Have Josh Smith present the Analysis of New Diversion Policy presentation to EMCC meeting.**

VIII. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The month of August is dark. The next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2023 at 9:30 am. Meeting adjourned at 10:02 am.