



# 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  
County Operations Center  
5560 Overland Avenue, Rm 171, San Diego 92123  
**Thursday, September 12, 2024**

## Minutes

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### IN ATTENDANCE

#### Members

Muns, Harry – SD Fire Chiefs' Association (Alt)  
Scott, MD, Christopher – SD County Medical Society  
Wells, RN, Christine – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators (Alt)

#### County Staff

Assof, Michael  
Christison, Brian  
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)  
Meick, Tyler  
Trousdale, Brad  
Vithalani, MD, Veer

#### Agency Representatives

Diehl, Tyler – San Miguel Fire  
Riley, Tobin – San Miguel Fire  
Sullivan, Don – AMR

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### I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dr. Chris Scott, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. A quorum was declared.
- Dr. Veer Vithalani was introduced as the Temporary Expert Professional with the San Diego County EMS Office. He will be filling the role of Assistant Medical Director primarily associated with the Base Hospital Trauma Catchment reports.

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### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**A motion was made by Chris Wells, seconded by Chris Scott to approve the November 9, 2023 minutes. Motion carried.**

**A motion was made by Chris Wells, seconded by Chris Scott to provisionally endorse the June 13, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion carried.**

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### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

Dr. Chris Scott previously made a motion to review Policy S-010 (Diversion Policy).

**ACTION: A suggestion was made that this subcommittee agendaize this agenda item.**

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#### IV. COUNTY REPORT – Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator

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##### A. Base Hospital Radios – Interim Solutions

Brian Christison, Program Coordinator, provided an update.

The tentative solution is similar to an office phone; radios integrate with a multifunctional handset. Working with RCS staff to identify the right solution for now.

##### B. Updated Medication Shortage Notification

Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator, shared a walk-through from the EMS website showing a new process that has been implemented for reporting medication shortages.

- 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 is open until June 30, 2024
- The Reports will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on August 27, 2024. Originally scheduled for the July 16 meeting, but was moved to August, in order to brief the new PSG iDCAO.

- Protocols:

On July 29, the EMS Medical Director provided protocol clarifications for fentanyl dosing in response to feedback received from the EMS community at the Prehospital Audit Committee (PAC) meeting on July 16, 2024. Please review the [EMS Medical Director's Fentanyl Dosing Clarification \(2024-2025 Protocols\) Memo](#) and distribute accordingly within your agency.

- 2025 - 2026 EMS Treatment Protocols: Request for EMS Community Input:

The San Diego County EMS Office invites your input on potential revisions to the EMS treatment protocols for the 2025-2026 cycle.

All treatment protocols are available for comment between August 30 to October 1, 2024. To be considered for this protocol revision cycle, we must receive your comments no later than October 1, 2024.

Please provide your thoughts and suggestions by visiting the County EMS website to access the survey or using the link below.

Link: <https://forms.office.com/g/pPdVSLWLAD>

- San Diego County Trauma System Celebrates 40 Years of Service:

On August 1, 1984, the San Diego County Trauma System was developed, becoming one of the first coordinated multi-center trauma systems established in the United States. The San Diego County Trauma System is a successful public-private partnership between the San Diego County EMS Office and the six designated trauma centers.

In the last 40 years, over 375,000 injured patients have received exceptional specialty care among those six trauma centers, putting the preventable death rate in the County of San Diego from traumatic injuries to now less than one percent.

On July 16, the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors commended the San Diego County Trauma System for their outstanding service, leadership, and commitment by issuing a proclamation declaring August 1, 2024 as “San Diego County Trauma System Day” throughout San Diego County.

- 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 (Registered Nurses), 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 I 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,
- 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@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:Nicole.DeIToro@sdcountry.ca.gov)

- **National Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project:**

The National Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project (PPRP) assessment closed on July 31, with a 46% response rate nationally (over 7,000 prehospital providers participated). For California, the response rate was 55% and for San Diego County the response rate was an incredible 91%.

This is a fantastic achievement and we would like to extend a special thank you to all of the EMS providers that took the time to participate in the assessment. The data is currently being cleaned and analyzed by the EMSC Data Center, which will take several months. The state results are expected to be available by the end of the year.

- **Current Medication Shortages:**

San Diego County EMS proactively monitors medication accessibility to detect impending shortages. To avoid systemwide deficiencies, EMS Agencies are requested to complete our new online form to:

- provide advanced notification of potential shortages; or
- request a temporary waiver of par level requirements

The new form can be accessed on our Medication Shortages webpage: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/ems/medication-shortages.html>

We are currently aware of potential systemwide shortages in dextrose 10%, epinephrine, ketamine, activated charcoal, sodium bicarbonate, and atropine (multi-dose vial). Agencies are advised to monitor their inventories and take proactive measures to avoid issues with par level compliance.

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## V. NEW BUSINESS

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### A. Communications Failure Report Presentation

Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator, shared the following presentation with the group:

[P-405 Communications Failure](#)

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## VI. OLD BUSINESS

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### A. Elect Chair and Vice Chair

**ACTION: It was suggested to defer out to next month and maintain status quo for now, until enough primary members are in attendance for nomination.**

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## VII. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

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The next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2024, 9:30 am. Location TBD. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.