



Commercial Ambulance Services Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

MIEMSS Room 212

Representatives Present:

CASAC Chair: *Will Rosenberg – Butler Medical Transport*

SOCALR: *Lisa Chervon - Director, Marty Johnson - Licensing Specialist, and Deb Shaw - Administrative Officer*

Attendees: *Tim Chizmar, MD (MIEMSS Medical Director), Sarah Sette (MIEMSS AAG), Venetia Roberts (Lifestar), Jonathan Siegel (AMR), Jill Dannenfelser, RN (MD Express Care-phone), Cyndy Wright-Johnson (MIEMSS EMSC), Justin Kinsey (ProCare), Jim Pixton (AAA), Heather Stamey (MedSTAR), Gary Rains (PRC), Brian Ashby (MedSTAR), Mike Moretti (Keystone-phone), Susan Rainey (Nemours-phone), Matt Larabee (Freestate-phone), Justine Rine (Med-Care-phone) and Ryan Senica (STAT MedEvac-phone)*

Introductions:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Will Rosenberg at 13:04 hours and introductions were made. A motion was made by Jim Pixton (AAA) to accept the minutes as they stand and the motion was seconded by Heather Stamey (MedSTAR). Minutes accepted by the group from the January 2019 CASAC meeting.

State EMS Medical Director's Report:

Dr. Chizmar reminded everyone of the upcoming Annual EMS Medical Directors' Symposium on April 10th. Also, there is an ADLS (Advanced Disaster Life Support) class in College Park on May 30th and 31st 2019 and the contact person is Chris Hyzer for anyone who is interested.

Dr. Chizmar reviewed a list of medications that are currently difficult to get or are in short supply, specifically Ketamine, pre-filled Epi 1-10,000 syringes and Cardizem. Jim Pixton mentioned that he is having difficulty getting D50 and Atropine and Dr. Chizmar shared that John Nichols runs a company called Safe Chain in Cambridge that is willing to help out those who are having difficulty in getting meds they need. The following is his contact information: email jonathan@safechain.com, cell# is 443-521-7904.



Commercial Ambulance Services Advisory Committee

There was a notice sent out today advising that McCreedy will no longer be a base station as of April 1, 2019.

The EMS plan is currently being revised as it has been 5 years since it was last updated. The process will begin internally, and will then be taken to external stakeholders for input.

Looking at the current protocol for defibrillation and there is some opportunity to help our EMS clinicians with the doses. They are looking to put out the recommendations as a supplement to the protocol for new providers with more accurate information

We have completed the interview process for the Fire EMS Liaison, and also the Director of Regional Programs which is currently being covered by Andrew Naumann in the acting role. There is no announcement at this time.

We are actively monitoring the ET-3 Program that Medicare has discussed. Details are slowly emerging on that project, applications from 40 jurisdictions nationwide will be accepted. MIEMSS leadership is monitoring, and may require that individual companies or jurisdictions to create their own application in lieu of a State application.

Will asked Dr. Chizmar why the Heparin protocol requires that a copy of the doctor's orders accompany the patient. Dr. Chizmar said that the protocols allow ALS services to use the drug as long as they were trained on the pumps, however it does not provide guidance on dosing. Dr. Chizmar suggested that the CASAC PRC representative and a Medical Director present the matter at the next PRC meeting for further discussion.

Will also asked the State to take a better look at the Medicare regulations as it applies to the transportation of an SCT patient being discharged to a skilled nursing facility or hospice. He is concerned that the use of an SCT unit to transport a patient to a SNF or to Hospice, is a misuse of critical care resources. Dr. Chizmar reminded the group that decisions should not be driven based on a lack of compensation by Medicare, and that this and similar protocols need to be brought to PRC to be clarified and allow for the call to be downgraded when appropriate.

SOCALR Report – Marty Johnson, Licensing Specialist: *Accounts Receivable/Invoicing/Equipment Lists*

Marty reviewed the new process regarding accounts receivable and invoicing. Commercial services no longer have to call Licensure to make credit card payments, whether for their renewals or any other transactions. The payments can be made directly through SOCALR.



Commercial Ambulance Services Advisory Committee

Marty reviewed the way in which SOCALR invoices a commercial service for its renewal, stating that accurate review of the Service Verification Report is crucial in the renewal process. Once signed as verified, this form is used to determine the cost of your service's renewal.

Jimmy Pixton asked SOCALR why we no longer accept checks as a form of payment. Lisa Chervon stated that MEIMSS stopped taking checks due to the difficulty with the chain of custody of those payments. Additionally, checks take longer to process, thereby prolonging the licensure / renewal process.

Marty stated that the BLS, ALS, and SCT equipment lists have been updated; NEO is still being finalized. Dr. Chizmar announced that tracheostomy tubes, for all ages, and transtracheal catheter ventilators are being removed from the equipment list, and the Heimlich valve is now optional. Please consult the updated equipment lists that are on our website when preparing for your annual inspections.

Lisa mentioned the SCT equipment list changes reiterating that the trach tubes for adults and pediatrics have been removed, but reiterating that services should continue to take sizes above and below a patient's current trach during transports.

For those who are not able to get Cardizem, Verapamil is the alternative that is acceptable to use (per Dr. Chizmar, a dose sufficient for one patient but please be aware of the potential drop in BP).

Lisa reviewed the changes to the COMAR Title 30.09 regulations that have been made since the last CASAC meeting. These are: the addition of e-Cigarettes and chewing tobacco to the no-smoking regulation; the allowance for a certified Emergency Medical Responder to operate as a driver on an ALS or BLS vehicle; COMAR 30.09.07 – Operational Requirements; added a statement that Neonates must be transported as per the Neonatal regulations.

Dr. Chizmar addressed the changes submitted by the Neonatal Subcommittee. Through multiple work sessions, the group has produced a final draft of proposed changes to the neonatal regulations that would update the definition of a neonate, and more clearly define specific criteria for personnel, equipment, and vehicles necessary to perform those transports. The potential for fiscal impact to outside state agencies due to the need for changes to reimbursement rates was discussed. These changes will be taken back to the lead Neonatal Stakeholders Workgroup for approval before the formal reg change process begins.

MIEMSS Licensure and Certification Report – Terrell Buckson, Director

Mr. Buckson was unable to attend.

MIEMSS EMSC Report – Cyndy Wright-Johnson

See PEMAC Report.



Commercial Ambulance Services Advisory Committee

Committee Report – SCT Subcommittee – Will Rosenberg

The Subcommittee did not meet prior to today's CASAC meeting, however Dr. Chizmar distributed the two draft versions of the SCT short forms for vote. After brief discussion, Jim Pixton made a motion to accept the short forms submitted by Med-STAR for use in lieu of the current MIEMSS Approved Short Form during SCT transports. The motion was seconded by Heather Stamey and there were no objections. Motion carried.

Committee Report – PEMAC Report – Jill Dannenfelser, RN

Cyndy Wright Johnson reported that PEMAC is working on a new special care process and form due to a need realized by 911 responses children that have medications that are given in a different route / form. This form will be much more specific than the current EIF form.

Also we are working on minor edits as we continue on with PEPP and PEARS. We will be having our Family Advisory Committee Meeting after the next PEMAC regarding pediatric trach care and pediatric stroke education.

During EMS Care, there will be opportunities for any of the RN's in the commercial services to be certified in pediatric emergency nursing. Pediatric Champion Workshop will take place on April 26th.

Committee Report – SEMSAC – Justin Kinsey

Justin reported that SEMSAC had the opportunity to meet Dr. Delbridge at the last SEMSAC meeting.

Committee Report – Ambulance Safety – Cory Skidmore

Nothing new to report.

Committee Report – Legislative Subcommittee Report – Justin Kinsey

There was no new discussion that pertains to the commercial industry however since our last meeting, the \$15/hr minimum wage is likely to pass legislation, and must be rolled out by 2025. This may have a tremendous negative impact on commercial services.

Committee Report – MIH Committee – Deb Ailiff

Deb was unable to attend however, submitted a written report. Justin Kinsey reviewed the report.



Commercial Ambulance Services Advisory Committee

Old Business – Open to the Floor

No Old Business

New Business – Will Rosenberg – and Open to the Floor

No New Business

For the Good of the Committee – Open to the Floor

Justin Kinsey was pleased to hear that MIEMSS is working with EMS education programs to assist EMT students in gaining access to EMT testing in Maryland. Dr. Chizmar reviewed the proposal to provide testing through MFRI regional offices immediately after testing in four sites that are now being piloted. MIEMSS is waiting on the National Registry to approve these changes.

Dr. Chizmar reminded the group that EPI and NARCAN are still required OSPs for commercial providers. He has updated power point slides/training for all new employees that reflect the new dosing protocols.

Adjournment – Will Rosenberg, CASAC Chairman

CASAC meeting was adjourned at 14:28 hours. The next CASAC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 21th, 2019** at 13:00 hours in Room 212 at MEIMSS. Dr. Delbridge is currently scheduled to attend this meeting.