

Region IV EMS Advisory Council

Rick Koch, Chair
Chris Truitt, Vice-Chair
Brian LeCates, Secretary

AGENDA
March 15, 2022

VIRTUAL MEETING

Joining info:

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1. Call to Order & Introductions
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Regional Medical Director's Report
4. Pediatric Medical Director's/EMSC Report
5. EMS Board Report
6. SEMSAC/Regional Affairs Report
7. MIEMSS Report
8. Agency/Regional Reports (Circle "yes" on the roster if you want to make a report)
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Adjournment

Next meeting
VIRTUAL
May 17, 2022
@ 1330 hrs.

REGION IV EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 15, 2022

Minutes

Attendees: Bryan Ebling, Mike Parsons, Lisa Lisle, Andrew Budzialek, Chris Shaffer, Chris Truitt, Cyndy Wright Johnson, Dr. Ochsenschlager, Doug Walters, Falon Beck, Dr. Chizmar, Mary Alice Vanhoy, Nicole Leonard, Scott Haas, Shari Donaway, Andi West-McCabe, Dr. Ciotola, Scott Wheatley, Mark Bilger, Wayne Tome, Wayne Darrell, Mark Sheridan, KJ Marvel, Dr. Kromer, Matt Watkins, Brian LeCates, Dr. Delbridge, Melissa Bragg, 1st Sgt. Larson, Dr. White, Rick Koch, Randy Linthicum, Lorenzo Cropper, Yelitza Davis-Hernandez, Patrick Campbell.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by Rick Koch

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Scott Haas to approve the January 17, 2022 minutes as written, seconded by Mary Alice Vanhoy and passed.

Regional Medical Director's Report:

Dr. Chizmar – There are some upcoming protocol changes that will hit on July 1, 2022. Just a few highlights include:

- An addition to the critically unstable patient protocol – resuscitate ASAP and prior to moving the patient.
- Revision to the Tylenol protocol – Adding the indication for fever as well as pain and dropping the age down to 3 months.
- Revision that allows either the King LT or the Extraglottic/Supraglottic airway. We are asking the Jurisdictions to select one from a list of (4) four. So either the King LT, the i-gel, LMA, or the air-Q.
- We will be removing the Induced Neuroprotective Hypothermia protocol
- Adding state wide TXA to the ALS pharmacology major trauma section
- Adding Ventricular Assist Device protocol
- Adding Droperidol as first line medication for the moderately agitated patient
- Adding lateral uterine displacement in pregnant patients that are hypertensive or in cardiac arrest
- Revising the PEA and asystole algorithm as well as removing the consult requirement for sodium bicarbonate in cardiac arrests
- An optional supplemental protocol is being added for Hydrofluoric Acid. This will be an optional supplemental for EMS to be able to carry calcium gluconate in both the IV and gel forms

Those are all of the protocol updates; I do have a few quick announcement as well.

- We are aware that some jurisdictions are struggling with some medication shortages, if you are still not able to find a work around please let me know.

- At our last protocol meeting, we had two presentations; one was on the Pedi dose research protocol regarding giving midazolam dosage based on an age range instead of doing milligram per kilogram calculations. This will be a research protocol run out of Children's National and will only have an impact Prince George's County for now.
- We had two small changes, one is looking at using low dose ketamine for painful procedures and also giving some guidance for lidocaine after a pediatric IO insertion
- I am happy to report that we have brought on Meg Stein as the new Protocol Administrator.
- The Medical Directors Symposium will be held virtually on April 13, 2022, which will take the place of the JAC meeting for QA/QI Officers, Jurisdictional Officials and Medical Directors. With the help of Dr. White, we are very pleased to announce we have Dr. Corey Slovis who will tell us about five things we need to know about the recent literature.
- The online training center is now up, live and running.

Dr. Delbridge – I have a few updates that I would like to share.

- House Bill 286 deals with paramedics as vaccinators. As you know, vaccination is the only thing that is legislated in terms of what a paramedic can or cannot do. The current law that was passed last year ends on January 21, 2023. We believe that allowing Paramedics to be vaccinators of the general public stipulating that this is coordination with the local Health Department or hospital / health care facility would basically put us in the mainstream of what the majority of the United States already does. We have submitted a bill to increase the sunset by three years, it has already been paired down in the house to two years and it is waiting for a Senate committee-meeting vote.
- Senate Bill 295 updates the Medicaid reimbursement to EMS. There has been some version of this bill every year for the past 5 or 6 years. What this current version does is increases the rate of compensation for EMS transport of the Medicaid beneficiary by \$25.00 per year in order to get to \$300.00.
- Senate Bill 515 involves Maryland Park Service to create medical responders. This bill requires the EMS board to issue a temporary certification as an EMR to each PSA within the DNR who submits proof of completing specified training or education requirements. This temporary certification expires on December 31, 2024. This bill also establishes a procedure for PSAs to obtain permanent certification after the temporary certification expires, including responsibilities for the EMS board to review records and offer an examination. DNR may not charge a fee or require the passage of an examination for the temporary certification of the PSA as an EMR, nor may the EMS Board charge a licensing, certifying or testing fee for permanent certification for PSAs.
- Senate Bill 70 is to make it so that EMS folks can take care of K-9 officers (Police Dogs). MIEMSS sent out a notification to the HJO's reminding them of the protection from civil liability and our interest in taking care of dogs. If you did not get that or have any questions, please let me know.
- Senate Bill 446 is a bill about peer support confidentially. It is so that what happens in a peer support group is confidential between the person seeking peer support and a qualified peer support provider.

- The Medicaid budget is up for review and at least one hospital testified that they would want a study of intra-facility transportation to occur and we would be interested in doing that.

Pediatric Medical Director's/EMSC Report:

Cyndy Wright-Johnson – I will not go over the award details, you know them well. I would like to give a shout out to Kent County for their EMD nomination. Going off memory, below are the nominations we have so far.

- Four Star of Life nominations
- One EMD from Kent County
- Three Leon Haze award nominations
- One EMS for Children Star of life nomination
- One Child nominated for Right Care

We have lots of room for additional nominations, so please get those forms filled out and submitted.

Just a few more updates:

- We had a quick notice that came out overnight from Facebook. Maryland Poison Center is offering their first training of what will be a series throughout the year. They are 50 years old and will be doing a lot of public education but also a lot of professional education.
- Each of the Pediatric Champions throughout the state will be receiving a resource folder and a thumb drive in the mail with everything we pulled from HRSA.
- The State EMS assessment done by the Federal EMS for Children's program has been open since January 5, 2022. We have three counties left to respond, they are Dorchester, Kent and Cecil.
- We still do not have national or state summaries for the National Pediatric Readiness assessment that was done in May, June and July of last year. The folks in Utah are still primarily working remotely. I did get some of the data summaries and I did share those with the regional Medical Directors over the weekend when we had our Pediatric Regional Medical Director retreat on Saturday. We did have all hospitals participating and I will share some quick highlights.
 1. We now have six freestanding facilities in the state
 2. We have thirty hospitals that have identified a Pediatric Physician Coordinator
 3. We have twenty-eight hospitals that have identified a Pediatric Nurse Coordinator
 4. We have fifteen hospitals that said they have a physically separate Pediatric emergency department
 5. The Change is in 2016 thirty-five hospitals indicated they had a pediatric unit or a joint pediatric unit with a mother baby unit. This time, in 2021 that number has decreased to Twenty-four hospitals that have.
- I would like to take a moment to say thank you to Bryan Ebling and Mike Parsons, without them we would not have gone live on Friday with the Winterfest and

Miltenberger virtual conference, which will be open through December. The work done out of the Region IV office to cover both of those conferences was tremendous and it is a privilege to work with them.

EMS Board Report: No report given.

SEMSAC Report / Regional Affairs Report:

Scott Haas – Since we did not have a meeting, I do not have a report. However, I did what to mention that a sub-committee has been formed to look at how EMSOPs are determined and how they are approved through MIEMSS. I volunteered to be on that committee and we have had one meeting. Some questions were brought up as far as our group because we have two new EMSOPS in our region which makes us 11 EMSOPS instead of 9 which is not reflected in our by-laws. Therefore, the two new EMSOPS are not voting members within our group, which could be an issue down the road. There are also questions about how funding is going to be split and other loose ends that need to be addressed when they start forming. Mr. Chairman, I do think that we need to address our by-laws to make those two organizations voting members within this group.

MIEMSS Report:

Bryan Ebling – I have a few things:

- Just some reminders on the provisional licensing and licensing extensions: If you received an original provisional license, you have until COB May 11, 2022 to get everything completed. If you received a provisional license during the last declaration, which was January 4 to February 4, you have until COB November 30, 2022 to get everything completed. Because of the declaration on January 4 MIEMSS was able to extend any BLS Clinician that expired on December 31. That extension expires on COB June 30 at which time everything will need to be completed.
- Winterfest did launch mid-morning on Friday with the updated LMS system. As of yesterday afternoon, we had 42 individuals complete the evaluations. This is the first event that the updated learning management system hosted and we are proud to be the first event. This content will remain available through the end of the year, December 31, 2022.
- Nursing continuing education credits are pending, we have a little more work to do to get those approved. We expect those nursing credits to be available towards the end of next week. My thanks to Cyndy and Danielle for all of their help and guidance.
- I would like to thank everyone for their assistance with Winterfest / Miltenberger conference. Especially the Winterfest steering committee, they did a lot of work upfront and Miltenberger EMS education committee joined in and assisted us with content.
- Thank you to the Region I and II office, especially Dwayne Kitis who helped us quite a bit.

- Thank you to the presenters from Region IV, Dr. Kastello and Dr. Chiccone, they both did an excellent job with their presentations.
- Thanks go to Cyndy, Danielle, and Pete Fiackos for their assistance getting this to launch.
- Thanks to Brian Slack and Patrick Tandy for their assistance in getting the content operational and helping us with the flyers.
- C4 and C4P had a very busy January, moderately busy February and a much slower March.
- Covid-19 test kits are still available.
- The Cardiac Device Grant – still facing supply chain issues.
- Base Station re-destination process is now under way, letters will be going out soon.
- A response to active assailant training course is being held in Annapolis on May 4 – May 6. If you did not get an invite, let us know and we will get that out to you.
- EMS Care is scheduled in-person for May 14 and May 15 in Ocean City. There will be pre-conference activities leading up to the Saturday and Sunday conference. The agenda is still being worked on at this time.
- The Region IV office is the lead on the VAIP program, specifically lead by Mike Parsons so I will defer to Mike at this time.

Mike Parsons – VAIP Update

- The VAIP Committee has met and reviewed the updated document that reflects the changes made to meet the 2022 protocols as well as a few additional changes. We will be having a meeting on March 22 at 10am for a final review. We are also looking at making some additional format changes to make it more user friendly.
- We are looking to go live on July 1, 2022.
- If anyone is interested in sitting in on the next meeting just reach out to the Region IV office and we will get an invite sent over to you.

Randy Linthicum – The only thing I will add is one of the EMS Care pre-conference conference courses we are offering will be a three-day initial CISM course, which will be Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of the week. In addition, that Friday there is a mental health first aid course that will be held at the hotel. This information will be out soon on how to register for those pre-conference courses.

Agency / Regional Reports:

MSP:

1st Sgt. Larson / report by Rick Koch – There are 6 new flight paramedics currently in training. He also talked about the TXA onboard and said blood is coming soon.

Cecil:

Rick Koch Reported – Deputy Director Patrick Campbell will be overseeing Field Ops, Training and Education services. Deputy Director Donohue will oversee Dispatch, Emergency Management, MIH and Electronic Services.

Wayne Tome - We have a concern with MFRI not being able to provide instructors for EMT refreshers and we are hoping to hear more about that at the meeting this weekend.

Kent: No report

Queen Anne's: No report

Caroline:

KJ – We are still looking for a Medical Director.

Talbot:

Bryan LeCates – I am very happy to report that we have a new EMS Division Chief, Matt Watkins. Matt will be taking over many of the EMS responsibilities and will be our new HJO for our Jurisdiction.

Matt Watkins – I appreciate being able to work with this group. I have been here for just over a month now and I look forward to working with you all in the future.

Dorchester: No report

Wicomico:

Chris Truitt – We brought on 22 employees last week, 12 are full time and 10 part-time. We are also waiting to hear back from city legal, we are going to try to do a couple week EMS body cam trial to see how it works. It will not be this year, but something we are looking at in the future. We have 3 of our medics working with the Sheriff's office and city police regarding what kind of K9 training we can do or have in the Region.

Somerset: No report

Worcester:

Melissa Brag – MIH is buzzing along and I believe they are doing training on that now with every department in the county to get them up to speed.

Chris Shaffer – We are hiring. We also have applied for the SAFER Grant; we have not heard anything back yet.

Christiana Union: No updates

UMM: No updates

AGH:

Yelitza-Davis Hernandez – We are preparing for all of the Ocean City fun times so we are bring on new staffing.

TidalHealth Peninsula Regional: No updates

Old Business: Cardiac Device Grants – Covered during the meeting.

New Business:

Scott Wheatley – I would not say this is new business but I was just looking to see when we will be able to get back to in-person meetings.

Bryan Ebling – I will check with HQ to see what we can find out.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 pm.